

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

#### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

In April 1957, 40 officials from the Washington area established an organization to exchange ideas and work together on regional issues such as transportation, the environment, and public safety. This organization would become known as the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments—or COG.

Over the years, COG has facilitated regional responses to such important initiatives as cleaning up the Potomac River, creating more affordable housing for metropolitan residents, and the development and coordination of regional public safety. In addition to helping galvanize the region's response to the September 11 attacks, COG continues to facilitate the region's ongoing emergency preparedness programs.

During its 50 years of existence, COG's activities have touched every aspect of the lives of the citizens of the National Capital region. I rise today to congratulate COG for 50 years of successful and effective collaboration and for the work it continues to do to improve the lives of our citizens.

### RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 5, 2007*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 744, recognizing the contributions of Native American veterans. These veterans have served with courage, pride, and honor to protect this country and the freedoms we hold dear.

As we approach Veterans Day, it is imperative that we all remember and honor those who have sacrificed their lives and families for the safety and security of this Nation.

I am very pleased that Congress has passed my legislation that honors Private First Class Charles George, a Native American veteran that served in the Korean War. Pfc. George was a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and was raised in the Birdtown community of the Qualla Boundary. He attended Cherokee Schools before enlisting in the U.S. Army and being sent to fight in

the Korean War. Pfc. George left his home to fight for our Nation, but the young man did not return to our mountains.

On November 30th, 1952, while fighting in Korea, Private First Class George was killed in action. He died saving the lives of those around him. He was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during the Korean War.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Asheville, North Carolina will be renamed the "Charles George Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center" at the end of this month to honor his actions and valor.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Native American veterans for their valiant service on behalf of our Nation.

### HONORING JOHN P. CASEY FOR RECEIVING THE WILLIAM CRAWFORD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John P. Casey, President of Electric Boat in Groton, Connecticut, who has been honored by the Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce with its William Crawford Distinguished Service Award.

Each year, the William Crawford Distinguished Service Award is awarded to an individual in eastern Connecticut who exemplifies the spirit of service to their neighbors and who has worked to improve the quality of life in eastern Connecticut. Any who know him should have no doubt that John Casey meets the criteria for this award.

As President of one of the largest employers in the region, John Casey is, by definition, a pillar of the communities of southeastern Connecticut. However, John's impact goes far beyond his role as a corporate executive. Throughout the years he has risen through the ranks at Electric Boat, he has demonstrated a unique brand of leadership which recognizes that more can be achieved when all elements of the workforce are summoned tackle a challenge. This approach is helping to streamline the submarine construction process and reduce the costs to the taxpayer—both critical milestones to increasing our submarine production rate.

John is also a fighter for the causes important to eastern Connecticut. In 2005, he was a key figure in the fight to save Submarine Base New London. His arguments in favor of the synergy that is achieved by locating the "Submarine Capital of the World" next to the nation's premier builder of submarines helped keep the base open. His voice rose above many others in convincing key decision makers that the Sub Base was too vital an asset to Connecticut and our Nation to lose.

John Casey is a true leader in eastern Connecticut, and one I have had the honor and

pleasure to work closely with over the past year. I commend the Eastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce for recognizing his great work on behalf of his employees, the region and our Nation, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring him.

### IN HONOR OF THE GARFIELD PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Garfield Park Christian Church which celebrates its centennial anniversary in the City of Santa Cruz, California this November. Commonly known as the "circle church" the surrounding neighborhoods were designed as a series of concentric circles built around the original tabernacle, making the church and the neighborhood forever linked.

Nestled into the heart of the Westside of Santa Cruz, not only does the Church celebrate a hundred years in our community but the neighborhoods surrounding the building do as well. Today the church grounds are a common meeting place for children, families and pet lovers. The church provides not only a place of worship but a cultural and community center for the surrounding homes and neighborhoods. It is estimated that over five hundred people use the facilities for events, meetings and gatherings each week.

Built in 1890, the church was designed to be a religious center to the unique surrounding neighborhoods that were built in circles around the church and serve as its congregation. When their original tabernacle burnt down in 1935, the spirit of the church did not falter. The loss was turned into a gift when for more than twenty years the site of the original tabernacle was leased to the city to be a park and playground, the original "Garfield Park." Today the Garfield Park Christian Church sanctuary and gym stand on the site of the old Tabernacle, tying the new buildings to their original beginnings.

Although Garfield Park Church does have a legacy of being a place of worship among its congregation, it is also devoted to keeping alive compassion and strength of community in its surrounding residents. Two other congregations meet in the building each week along with the building being home to the annual Hindu Navratri festival and other events. By opening its doors and hearts to so many groups, meetings and people, the Garfield Park Church displays its commitment to open compassion and unity.

With this anniversary the church will adopt a new name in celebration of their centennial celebration. Moving forward they are adopting "A New Vision for a New Century" and a new name "The Circle Church, Disciples of Christ," as they look forward to the next hundred years.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize an organization that is so deeply rooted in community involvement and unity. I am excited for this year's celebration and look forward to many more years of gathering in the circle neighborhoods of Santa Cruz.

H.R. 3920, THE TRADE AND  
GLOBALIZATION ACT OF 2007

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3920, the Trade and Globalization Act of 2007, and commend the Ways and Means, and Education and Labor committees for their hard work on this legislation.

The health of the American economy depends in large part on trade with foreign markets. As globalization, technology, and trade agreements continue to remove barriers to free trade, we must work to ensure that our workers, farmers and small businesses do not suffer unfairly for this economic growth. This legislation moves the Trade Adjustment Assistance, TAA, program in a new direction with that sentiment in mind.

The current TAA program was created in a different era, and fails to address the realities of trade in the 21st century. The Trade and Globalization Act expands eligibility for TAA training programs, temporary income support and healthcare assistance to include manufacturing workers who currently are ineligible for benefits for technical reasons, and to service workers who are increasingly losing their jobs to outsourcing. It also significantly increases funding for these programs, without adding to the deficit, or raising taxes on American families. An updated TAA program will allow all trade-displaced workers to acquire the skills they need to reenter the workforce, and the flexibility to choose their most effective path.

Workers facing the loss of a good job face significant challenges beyond the loss of income. To help families prepare for their transition, this bill requires employers to provide adequate notice to their employees before a layoff, and provides an incentive for states to reform their unemployment insurance programs to realize the needs of low-income, part-time and female members of the workforce.

Additionally, this bill recognizes that trade can have significant impacts for entire regions of our country, and that American businesses are critical to helping workers adapt to the global economy. That is why this legislation provides incentives for firms to redevelop and hire workers in those communities disproportionately affected by international trade.

We owe our prosperity to our greatest national asset—our American workers. I urge you to join me in passing this much needed legislation that will assist these workers who keep America's economy strong.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, on November 9, I was on jury call in my district and missed several votes. I would have voted had I been here: rollcall No. 1077, ordering the previous question on H. Res. 809, "yea"; rollcall No. 1078, H. Res. 809, "yea"; rollcall No. 1079, approving the Journal, "yea"; rollcall No. 1080, motion to adjourn, "nay"; rollcall No. 1081, H.R. 3996, Temporary Tax Relief Act, "yea."

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHILD-  
CARE AFFORDABILITY ACT OF  
2007

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY New York. Madam Speaker, today, on behalf of myself, Rep. YVETTE CLARKE, and Rep. NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ, I introduce the Childcare Affordability Act of 2007, which will create an above-the-line tax deduction for working parents of up to \$13,000 in childcare expenses for one child and a maximum of \$26,000 for two or more children. This deduction is based on the average cost of childcare in urban areas, which is \$13,000 per year—more than one quarter of the typical family's income. This bill will also make the current Dependent Care Tax Credit fully refundable and expand the qualified actual expenses—now capped at \$3,000 per child with a maximum of \$6,000 to \$13,000 for one child, with a \$26,000 maximum for two or more children. This change more accurately reflects the current costs of childcare for working families, who will now be able to choose whichever option provides them with the greatest tax relief.

Greater tax relief is an important and necessary step toward improving the lives of America's working families. The rising cost of child care is squeezing working families and the amount of assistance the Federal government currently provides to ease the burden of these expenses is inadequate. We can and should do more to support our working families. Quality childcare is essential to healthy child development. This bill will help America's families provide high-quality care for their children, which will pay off in the future by increasing productivity and economic growth, and stemming the tide of rising inequality in the United States. With this initiative, we can ease the burden on working families, while making an essential investment in the future prosperity of our Nation.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAOR-  
DINARY COMMUNITY SERVICE  
OF THE BRAEN FAMILY

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Braen family for its tremendous service to its community. Currently in its fifth generation of family management of its quarry and construction business, the Braen family has long typified the "good neighbor."

In addition to the commitment that the individual members of the Braen family pursue in charity work and community service, the company has initiated a program to promote volunteerism with its own employees. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed. And, tonight, the Braen family and the Braen family of companies—Stone Industries, Inc.; Van Orden Sand & Gravel; Braen Supply, Inc.; and Braen Aggregates, LLC—will be honored by the Northern New Jersey Council of the Boy Scouts of America for exemplifying that high standard.

The Braen family also dedicates itself to community-friendly business practices that not only add to the value of the local economy but also to the quality of life Braen employees, customers, and others enjoy. They have always strived to meet environmental standards long before the standards are in place, thinking first of the health, welfare, and comfort of their employees and neighbors first. They have been honored for their good work, including as New Jersey Family Business of the Year.

So, tonight, as the Boy Scouts honor the Braen family for the support they have shown Scouts and Scouting, I rise to share in their tribute and to thank the Braen family for its contribution to making north Jersey such a fine place to live, work, and raise a family.

VETERANS DAY PRAYER

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as greatful Americans prepare for providing deserved tributes for our courageous veterans, I have fortunately been provided a profound poem from Clinton B. Campbell of Beauford, SC.

MY VETERAN'S DAY PRAYER

Lord, when the pull of my bed  
lures me to stay another hour, please remind  
me of taps being played for the fallen,  
of the tears that reach my cheek  
after each name is read, the ones I know personally  
and the ones old-timers  
talk about in awe.

After the crowd stumbles  
through The Pledge of Allegiance  
I want to be there  
and listen with all my heart  
while the winner of this year's  
essay contest quiets the crowd  
reminding us of why  
we are paying our respects.

When the closing prayer is read  
I want to look around in honor  
at my fellow vets,  
the men and the women  
in their timeworn uniforms.  
Let me see them as they were,  
splendidly marching forward  
with the courage that allows us to  
have a choice of whether  
we come here today or not.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CARMEL  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carmel Catholic High School in Mundelein, Illinois, for being named a 2007 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School.

Nearly 1500 students, ages 13 to 18, attend Carmel Catholic High School. Carmel Catholic is one of only 5 high schools nationwide to win the Blue Ribbon School award 4 times. With a great devotion to learning and academic achievement, Carmel is a faith-based community that attributes their success to the dedication and hard work of their teachers. As a result, these students consistently score above state and national averages on standardized tests in all subject areas. In addition, it is the only high school in Illinois and one of three private high schools in the nation to be recognized.

Carmel Catholic is among 287 schools from across the nation chosen by the Secretary of Education to receive this acknowledgement. These schools have distinguished themselves by embodying the goals of reaching high standards and closing the achievement gap. Schools selected for this honor either have students from all subgroups that have demonstrated significant improvement or have students that achieve in the top 10 percent of their state on statewide tests.

This is a great honor for the 10th district and I congratulate the principal, Fr. Robert C. Carroll, the students, and teachers at Carmel Catholic High School for this achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, it gives me tremendous pleasure to share news of a special Golden Anniversary occurring in my home district in California. The City of Pacifica, a jewel along the coast of the Pacific Ocean, celebrates 50 years of incorporation as an independent municipality on Nov. 22 of this year. In 1957, people along the Coast decided that they were tired of being second-class San Mateo County residents. The seaside villages and valley communities stretching from the Daly City border south to the Devil's Slide were fearful of being used as a dumping ground by their more prosperous and established neighbors. In fact, the City of San Bruno actually wanted to annex parts of the area for landfill purposes, a notion incompressible today.

Madam Speaker, those fiercely strong-minded Coastsiders held meetings, hired consultants, used graduate students to prepare surveys, canvassed their neighbors, and, in short, did everything they could to assess the possibility of incorporating as a city. There was an active resistance, as well, with a strong contingent of people who wanted things to stay the same. Let me say, Madame Speaker, with no small amount of pride, that the people who live in this special area have long been known to be politically active, inquisitive and resourceful. It actually took two separate elections before a majority, of only about 500 votes to be precise, decided to incorporate.

But once the decision was made, Madame Speaker, the people in this gorgeous geographical area of California embarked on a public adventure that created one of the truly unique cities in America, if not the world. Ahead of its time in many ways, the new city was christened "Pacifica" to highlight the ocean next to it as well as the 80-foot statue by sculptor Ralph Stackpole that represented the people of the Pacific Rim at the Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island in 1939 and 1940. The very first mayor was a woman, Jean Fassler, starting a city tradition of politically active women sitting on the council. While Pacifica made international news in 1992 for having an All-Women City Council, it is often overlooked that the city has never actually had an All-Men elected body.

Madam Speaker, let me paint a picture of the history of this region. In 1769, a group of explorers led by Don Gaspar de Portola viewed San Francisco Bay from a point now known as Sweeney Ridge, which is within the eastern boundary of Pacifica and is part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, a part of the National Parks Service system with a tremendous influence on Pacifica's natural beauty. Panoramic views of the Bay Area greet hikers who make the climb up Sweeney Ridge. The Portola Discovery Site has been designated as a National Landmark. It is my great pleasure to have had a leading role in expanding the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to include this beautiful site, along with other open spaces in the region.

Starting in 1785, crops were planted in San Pedro Valley at an outpost of Mission Dolores. In 1839, Don Francisco Sanchez was given a Mexican Land Grant with boundaries similar to the present City boundary lines. In 1846 he moved into the Sanchez Adobe, which is currently maintained as a San Mateo County Museum and park on Linda Mar Boulevard.

This coastal area remained for years primarily an agricultural Eden until the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. Land speculators, stimulated by the construction of the Ocean Shore Railroad, subdivided and developed a series of small coastsides communities with the hope of creating a suburban population for San Francisco. The vision then was to establish a tourist and commuter heaven along the Pacific Ocean. The Little Brown Church, Anderson's Store and San Pedro School (which later became City Hall) date from this period. In 1908, Henry Harrison McCloskey, an attorney for the Ocean Shore Railroad, built a castle-like home which still dominates a hill above Sharp Park. Mrs. Honora Sharp donated 410 acres to the City and County of San Francisco to develop a recreation area, which became the Sharp Park Golf Course and the Rifle and Archery Range.

Subdivisions were eventually created, although long after the demise of the Ocean Shore Railroad in 1921, to meet the needs of young families of returning World War II veterans. In less than a decade from its 1957 incorporation, the population had grown to 35,000 people. It has taken four more decades to increase that number by 5,000. This statistic alone points to one of the special qualities of Pacifica.

Pacifica is made up of 10 communities, including Edgemar, Pacific Manor, Manor Village, Westview, Sharp Park, Fairway Park, Vallemar, Rockaway Beach, Linda Mar and Pedro Point. Residents continue to identify with the specific personalities of their neighborhoods while maintaining a certain pride in being from Pacifica.

Green and white became the City colors and the fuchsia was designated as the City flower. "Wisdom in Progress" became the City slogan, although "Scenic Pacifica," later suggested by Carl McCarthy, is more widely used. In 1970, Balaguer, Spain, the birthplace of Portola, became the Sister City of Pacifica.

Madam Speaker, I want to share the news that in recent years Pacifica has completed a number of notable projects such as: the Calera Creek Water Recycling Plant—April 2001; Friendship Playground—June 2001; New Pacifica Police Station—November 2002; Pacifica State Beach Improvement Project; Rockaway to Crespi Multi-use Trail and Crespi to Pedro Point Multi-use Trail—October 2004; Pacifica Skatepark—December 2005; Calera Creek Water Recycling Plant Photovoltaic Project—July 2006; Esplanade 500 Block Blufftop Enhancement Project and the San Pedro Creek Flood Control Project and Fish Ladder renovation. These projects bring attention to the most successful aspect of Pacifica's existence—this is a city far ahead of its time in the way it capitalizes on maintaining strong environmental and ecological priorities.

Madam Speaker, it is my great privilege to have represented the good citizens of Pacifica for more than half of the city's existence. It has also been my great honor to assist the city in achieving many of its goals, most recently the construction of the \$300 million Devil's Slide Tunnels transportation project.

The natural beauty of Pacifica, with its lovely cool climate, delightful valleys and hills and most of all, its innovative, talented, active and wonderful residents, helps it stand out as one of my favorite places in the world. I invite my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in wishing the City of Pacifica and its inhabitants a Happy 50th Anniversary and a successful journey through the 21st Century.

SAUDI ARABIA IS HUB OF WORLD  
TERROR

**HON. PETER HOEKSTRA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I believe that Congress should continue to encourage an open and robust debate about the threat from radical jihadists. I found the following report in the Sunday Times of particular interest. I would like to share it with my colleagues.

[From the Sunday Times, Nov. 4, 2007]

**SAUDI ARABIA IS HUB OF WORLD TERROR: THE DESERT KINGDOM SUPPLIES THE CASH AND THE KILLERS**

(By Nick Fielding and Sarah Baxter)

It was an occasion for tears and celebration as the Knights of Martyrdom proclaimed on video: "Our brother Turki fell during the rays of dawn, covered in blood after he was hit by the bullets of the infidels, following in the path of his brother." The flowery language could not disguise the brutal truth that a Saudi family had lost two sons fighting for Al-Qaeda in Iraq.

The elder brother, Khaled, had been a deputy commander of a crack jihadist "special forces" unit. After his "glorious" death, Turki took his place.

"He was deeply affected by the martyrdom of his brother," the Knights said. "He became more ambitious and more passionate about defending the land of Islam and dying as a martyr, like his brother."

Turki's fervent wish was granted earlier this year, but another Saudi national who travelled to Iraq had second thoughts. He was a graduate from a respectable family of teachers and professors who was recruited in a Saudi Arabian mosque and sent to Iraq with \$1,000 in travel expenses and the telephone number of a smuggler who could get him across the Syrian border.

In Iraq he was ordered to blow himself up in a tanker on a bridge in Ramadi, but he panicked before he could press the detonator. He was arrested by Iraqi police. In a second lorry, another foreign fighter followed orders and died.

King Abdullah was surprised during his two-day state visit to Britain last week by the barrage of criticism directed at the Saudi kingdom. Officials were in "considerable shock", one former British diplomat said.

Back home the king is regarded as a modest reformer who has cracked down on home-grown terrorism and loosened a few relatively minor restrictions on his subjects' personal freedom.

With oil prices surging, Saudi Arabia is growing in prosperity and embracing some modern trappings. Bibles and crucifixes are still banned, but internet access is spreading and there are plans for "Mile High Tower", the world's tallest skyscraper, in Jeddah. As a key ally of the West, the king had every reason to expect a warm welcome.

Yet wealthy Saudis remain the chief financiers of worldwide terror networks. "If I could somehow snap my fingers and cut off the funding from one country, it would be Saudi Arabia," said Stuart Levey, the U.S. Treasury official in charge of tracking terror financing.

Extremist clerics provide a stream of recruits to some of the world's nastiest trouble spots.

An analysis by NBC News suggested that the Saudis make up 55% of foreign fighters in Iraq. They are also among the most uncompromising and militant.

Half the foreign fighters held by the U.S. at Camp Cropper near Baghdad are Saudis. They are kept in yellow jumpsuits in a separate, windowless compound after they attempted to impose sharia on the other detainees and preached an extreme form of Wahhabist Islam.

In recent months, Saudi religious scholars have caused consternation in Iraq and Iran by issuing fatwas calling for the destruction of the great Shi'ite shrines in Najaf and Karbala in Iraq, some of which have already been bombed. And while prominent members of the ruling al-Saud dynasty regularly express their abhorrence of terrorism, leading figures within the kingdom who advocate extremism are tolerated.

Sheikh Saleh al-Luhaidan, the chief justice, who oversees terrorist trials, was recorded on tape in a mosque in 2004, encouraging young men to fight in Iraq. "Entering Iraq has become risky now," he cautioned. "It requires avoiding those evil satellites and those drone aircraft, which own every corner of the skies over Iraq. If someone knows that he is capable of entering Iraq in order to join the fight, and if his intention is to raise up the word of God, then he is free to do so."

The Bush administration is split over how to deal with the Saudi threat, with the State Department warning against pressure that might lead the royal family to fall and be replaced by more dangerous extremists.

"The urban legend is that George Bush and Dick Cheney are close to the Saudis because of oil and their past ties with them, but they're pretty disillusioned with them," said Stephen Schwartz, of the Centre for Islamic Pluralism in Washington. "The problem is that the Saudis have been part of American policy for so long that it's not easy to work out a solution."

According to Levey, not one person identified by America or the United Nations as a terrorist financier has been prosecuted by Saudi authorities. A fortnight ago exasperated U.S. Treasury officials named three Saudi citizens as terrorist financiers. "In order to deter other would-be donors, it is important to hold these terrorists publicly accountable," Levey said.

All three had worked in the Philippines, where they are alleged to have helped to finance the Abu Sayyaf group, an Al-Qaeda affiliate. One, Muham-mad Sughayr, was said to be the main link between Abu Sayyaf and wealthy Gulf donors.

Sughayr was arrested in the Philippines in 2005 and swiftly deported to Saudi Arabia after pressure from the Saudi embassy in Manila. There is no evidence that he was prosecuted on his return home.

This year the Saudis arrested 10 people thought to be terrorist financiers, but the excitement faded when their defense lawyers claimed that they were political dissidents and human rights groups took up their cause.

Matthew Levitt, a former intelligence analyst at the US Treasury and counter-terrorism expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, believes the Saudis could do more. He said: "It is important for the Saudis to hold people publicly accountable. Key financiers have built up considerable personal wealth and are loath to put that at risk. There is some evidence that individuals who have been outed have curtailed their financial activities."

In the past the Saudis openly supported Islamic militants. Osama Bin Laden was originally treated as a favourite son of the regime and feted as a hero for fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan. Huge charitable organisations such as the International Islamic Relief Organisation and the al-Haramain Foundation—accused in American court documents of having links to extremist groups—flourished, sometimes with patronage from senior Saudi royals.

The 1991 Gulf war was a wake-up call for the Saudis. Bin Laden began making vitriolic attacks on the Saudi royal family for co-operating with the U.S. and demanded the expulsion of foreign troops from Arabia. His citizenship was revoked in 1994. The 1996 attack on the Khobar Towers in Dhahran, which killed 19 U.S. servicemen and one Saudi, was a warning that he could strike within the kingdom.

As long as foreigners were the principal targets, the Saudis turned a blind eye to terror. Even the September 11 attacks of 2001, in which 15 of the 19 hijackers were Saudis,

could not shake their complacency. Despite promises to crack down on radical imams, Saudi mosques continued to preach hatred of America.

The mood began to change in 2003 and 2004, when Al-Qaeda mounted a series of terrorist attacks within the kingdom that threatened to become an insurgency. "They finally acknowledged at the highest levels that they had a problem and it was coming for them," said Rachel Bronson, the author of *Thicker than Oil: America's Uneasy Partnership with Saudi Arabia*.

Assassination attempts against security officials caused some of the royals to fear for their own safety. In May 2004 Islamic terrorists struck two oil industry installations and a foreigners' housing compound in Khobar, taking 50 hostages and killing 22 of them.

The Saudi authorities began to cooperate more with the FBI, clamp down on extremist charities, monitor mosques and keep a watchful eye on fighters returning from Iraq. Only last month Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdul-Aziz al-Sheikh, the kingdom's leading cleric, criticised glibble Saudis for becoming "convenient knights for whoever wants to exploit their zeal, even to the point of turning them into walking bombs".

And last week in London, King Abdullah warned young British Muslims not to become involved with extremists.

Yet the Saudis' ambivalence towards terrorism has not gone away. Money for foreign fighters and terror groups still pours out of the kingdom, but it now tends to be carried in cash by couriers rather than sent through the wires, where it can be stopped and identified more easily.

A National Commission for Relief and Charity Work Abroad, a nongovernmental organisation that was intended to regulate private aid abroad to guard against terrorist financing, has still not been created three years after it was trumpeted by the Saudi embassy in Washington.

Hundreds of Islamic militants have been arrested but many have been released after undergoing reeducation programmes led by Muslim clerics.

According to the daily *Alwa-tan*, the interior ministry has given 115m riyals (£14.7m) to detainees and their families to help them to repay debts, to assist families with health care and housing, to pay for weddings and to buy a car on their release. The most needy prisoners' families receive 2,000-3,000 riyals (£286 to £384) a month.

Ali Sa'd Al-Mussa, a lecturer at King Khaled University in Abha, protested: "I'm afraid that holding [extremist] views leads to earning a prize or, worse, a steady income."

Former detainees from the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba are also benefitting. To celebrate the Muslim holiday of Eid, 55 prisoners were temporarily released last month and given the equivalent of £1,300 each to spend with their families.

School textbooks still teach the Protocols of the Elders of Zion. A notorious anti-Semitic forgery, and preach hatred towards Christians, Jews and other religions, including Shi'ite Muslims, who are considered heretics.

Ali al-Ahmed, director of the Washington-based Institute for Gulf Affairs, said: "The Saudi education system has over 5m children using these books. If only one in 1,000 take these teachings to heart and seek to act on them violently, there will be 5,000 terrorists."

In frustration, Arlen Specter, the Republican senator for Pennsylvania, introduced the Saudi Arabia Accountability Act 10 days ago, calling for strong encouragement of the Saudi government to "end its support for institutions that fund, train, incite, encourage or in any other way aid and abet terrorism".

The act, however, is expected to die when it reaches the Senate foreign relations committee: the Bush administration is counting on Saudi Arabia to help stabilise Iraq, curtail Iran's nuclear and regional ambitions and give a push to the Israeli and Palestinian peace process at a conference due to be held this month in Annapolis, Maryland.

"Do we really want to take on the Saudis at the moment?" asks Bronson. "We've got enough problems as it is."

## SIKHS OBSERVE ANNIVERSARY OF DELHI MASSACRES

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, on November 3, Sikhs from up and down the East Coast gathered here in Washington to protest the 23rd anniversary of the Delhi massacres. Over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in that massacre, which followed the assassination of Indira Gandhi. Sikh police officers were locked in their barracks to keep them from interfering with the massacre. State TV and radio called for "blood for blood," inciting the people to kill more Sikhs.

This was a massive atrocity by the Indian regime against the Sikhs. It made it clear that the Indian government had no intention of treating the Sikhs like people in a free and democratic country ought to be treated. Instead, they chose to inflict mass terror on their Sikh citizens. This is not the way a democratic government acts, Madam Speaker. It is the action of a terrorist regime. India should be declared a terrorist regime for acts like this, for creating the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, and for its ongoing subversion of Pakistan by sponsoring cross-border terrorism in Sindh, as reported in the January 2, 2002 Washington Times.

Sikhs in attendance at the demonstration raised slogans in support of Khalistan as well as slogans in opposition to the massacre. As you know, the Sikhs declared their independence from India on October 7, 1987. Khalistan is their country, but it remains occupied by over half a million Indian forces. I would like to know why "the world's largest democracy" insists on maintaining authoritarian control of Khalistan instead of allowing the people there to have a free and fair vote on its status. This congress should put itself on record in support of such a vote, as well as the plebiscite that was promised to the Kashmiri people in 1948 and has never occurred. Nagalim, too, seeks its independence from India. The Nagas should also be granted the right to vote on their status. What would be wrong with that, if India is the democracy it says it is? And if India is the democracy it says it is, then why are so many peoples trying to get out from under its rule?

In addition to demanding that India allow the right to self-determination (which is the essence of democracy), we should demand that basic human rights be observed in "the world's largest democracy." The Delhi massacre is just one example of how basic human rights are ignored there. The murders of over 250,000 Sikhs, over 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims, more 2,000 to 5,000 Muslims in Gujarat, more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, and tens

of thousands of other minorities, including Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and others speak loudly on the lack of human rights in India. So does the fact that Amnesty International has not been allowed into Punjab since 1984. This situation cannot continue.

We should cut off our aid and trade with India until it allows basic human rights, including but not limited to the right to self-determination, to all people under its rule.

Madam Speaker, the Council of Khalistan issued an excellent and informative press release on the Delhi massacres and the demonstration that was held this month. I recommend it to all my colleagues and I would like to place it in the RECORD at this time.

#### SIKHS REMEMBER DELHI MASSACRES WITH VERY SUCCESSFUL DEMONSTRATION

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 13, 2007.—Sikhs from around the East Coast gathered by the Gandhi statue at the Indian Embassy in Washington, DC on November 3 to commemorate the Delhi massacres of November 1984 in which over 20,000 Sikhs were murdered while the police were locked in their barracks and the state-run television and radio called for more Sikh blood.

The rally was attended by Sikhs from Philadelphia, including Dr. Bakhshish Singh Sandhu, S. Karj Singh, and S. Dharam Singh, as well as Sikhs from New Jersey, Baltimore, Maryland, Virginia, Washington DC, and other locations. New York Sikhs led by Sardar Avtar Singh Pannu also participated. The attendees spoke, carried signs, and chanted slogans. Slogans included "Khalistan Zindabad" ("Long live Khalistan"), "India free Khalistan", "India stop killing minorities", "India free Kashmir", "India free Christian Nagaland", and others.

The Delhi massacres were a brutal chapter in India's repression of the Sikhs, according to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, which is leading the demonstration. "This brutal, government-inspired massacre clarified that there is no place in India for Sikhs," Dr. Aulakh said. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan. In the twenty years since then, India has continued its illegal occupation of Khalistan and stepped up the repression of the Sikhs while the Sikh Nation has continued to work to achieve its birthright.

History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians since 1948, over 89,000 Muslims in Kashmir since 1988, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, Dalits, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

Indian police arrested human-rights activist Jaswant Singh Khaira after he exposed their policy of mass cremation of Sikhs, in which over 50,000 Sikhs have been arrested, tortured, and murdered, and then their bodies were declared unidentified and secretly cremated. He was murdered in police custody. His body was not given to his family.

The police never released the body of former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Gurdev Singh Kaunke after SSP Swaran Singh Ghotna murdered him. Ghotna has never

been brought to trial for the Jathedar Kaunke murder. No one has been brought to justice for the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khaira.

According to a report by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR), 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners in India without charge or trial. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984! Tens of thousands of other minorities are also being held as political prisoners, according to Amnesty International. We demand the immediate release of all these political prisoners.

"Only a sovereign, independent Khalistan will end the repression and lift the standard of living for the people of Punjab," said Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan. "Democracies don't commit genocide. As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh'." Dr. Aulakh noted. "We must continue to press for our God-given birthright of freedom," he said. "Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish."

## A TRIBUTE TO JEFFERSON AWARD WINNER RUSSELL EWELL

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize the achievements of a very special man within my home district in California. Russell Ewell, who has recently been honored with a Jefferson Award, is much deserving of the accolade, which spotlights outstanding public service.

Mr. Ewell brought the community E-Soccer, a unique athletic outreach program affiliated with the Hope Technology School, where his wife is the Executive Director. The unqualified success of E-Soccer in bringing together typical and special needs children of all ages on a soccer field is a testament to Russ Ewell's visionary concept.

Children are encouraged and enabled to develop skills, confidence and self-esteem through the sport of soccer. They also make lasting friendships. This wonderful program serves over 250 children on Saturday mornings in communities throughout the Bay Area. It is free and benefits from an all-volunteer staff. Showcasing the growing scope of E-Soccer is the fact that a team of nine coaches from the program recently visited Nairobi, Kenya, to train volunteers there on how to establish their own E-Soccer activities. There are plans for further outreach projects in other countries.

Madam Speaker, Russell Ewell established the E-Soccer program in April 2000 specifically for children with special needs in Foster City. His inspiration came from his two sons with special needs. Their younger sister, Jady, is not a special needs child. Russ wanted Jonathan, who has Down Syndrome, and Jordan, who is autistic, to be able to interact with typical children, benefiting from the athletic coordination practiced in soccer. He also wanted families with special needs children to have an opportunity to enjoy an athletic experience that is both positive and uplifting. To that end, he worked with soccer coaches, special needs educators and physical therapists on developing a program like no

other; a sports program that doesn't isolate typical and special needs children, but integrates them seamlessly into group activities. Both communities benefit from the interaction. Russ has seen that success in his own children as well as the many families who have participated. What began with 5 children has grown into a blossoming effort with 250 young soccer players.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and appreciation that I bring Russell Ewell's E-Soccer program to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives. He has created a shining example of how one man's idea can alter the lives of many for the better.

---

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 816  
CONGRATULATING THE COLORADO  
ROCKIES ON WINNING THE  
NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP  
AND PLAYING IN THE 2007  
WORLD SERIES

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution congratulating the Colorado Rockies on their National League Championship and first-ever franchise appearance in the World Series. The Rockies defied the odds this year by making it to the World Series, capturing the best hopes of Coloradans and giving us all a reason to cheer for their success. Despite a tough loss to a great team in the Boston Red Sox, we remain proud of the Rockies' efforts and astonished at their meteoric rise to the top of the National League.

Toward the close of the season, the Rockies were the underdogs in the National League pennant race. The challenge of making the playoffs seemed as large and daunting as the mountain range for which the Rockies were named, but the team maintained an optimism and competitive spirit that kept them alive long after commentators had written them off. Winning 21 of their last 22 games prior to the World Series—an unprecedented feat in baseball history—the Rockies rolled over expectations and swept the Arizona Diamondbacks in the NLCS.

The World Series proved to be a bigger challenge than the Rockies could surmount, and they lost in four games to a very talented Red Sox team. Despite the losses, the Rockies carried themselves with dignity and true sportsmanship, giving Coloradans something to be proud of. As the father of two young athletes I can say that the way the Rockies carried themselves is a tremendous example for our young people. We would have loved to have seen the Rockies bring home a victory this year, but, as the Red Sox' Manny Ramirez said during the ALCS, there's always next year. I know I am not alone in looking forward to watching some great Rockies baseball in the future.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Colorado Rockies on a great season and in thanking them for serving as great examples of professional athletes practicing sportsmanship.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF MIKE  
BIONDI

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of my good friend, Mike Biondi, and I offer my deepest condolences to his family after his passing last night at the age of 50. Mike's sudden and tragic passing came as a great shock to me, as I had planned to see him early next week, and I hope that we can do as good of a job remembering Mike as he did living an outstanding life that had a positive impact on so many across the country.

Mike was a founding partner at Wasserstein Perella & Co., and rose to become chairman and CEO. I had the honor of working with Mike at Wasserstein, and I am privileged to have been able to call him a friend. Mike took me under his wing during my time at Wasserstein and became my mentor.

While working as an investment banker at Wasserstein Perella & Co., Mike helped establish Chicago-based Exelon Corporation, one of the Nation's largest electric utilities. Mike could literally take credit for helping to keep Chicagoans warm during our coldest winters.

Mike joined First Boston's mergers and acquisitions team after serving as an attorney at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. He spent the past 4 years at Lazard LLC, where he served as cochairman of investment banking. No matter where he worked, Mike was held in high esteem and widely recognized for his intellectual acumen, wisdom and integrity.

Mike graduated from Dartmouth University where he played on the baseball team. He also received graduate degrees from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and Wharton business school. Mike continued to be active with the Dartmouth community and co-chaired the Dartmouth College Fund Committee with his wife Cynthia.

No matter where he went—Dartmouth, Penn, Lazard, Wasserstein—Mike had a profound effect on people. He was not just my mentor or the mentor for others at his firms, but he was also a role model for the people whose lives he touched and a mentor to students both during his time on campus and as an alumnus.

Madam Speaker, Mike was a titan in his field, and a tremendous human being. He is survived by his wife Cynthia, his four sons, Michael Jr., James, William, and Cameron, and his two brothers, Frank and Robert. I extend my deepest condolences and gratitude to his family. We will all miss Mike, and I know that I will never forget the lessons he taught me both in business and in life.

---

DOING MORE THAN TALKING  
ABOUT PHYSICAL FITNESS

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, we are all well acquainted with the Mark Twain quote, "Everyone talks about the weather but nobody

does anything about it." I think the 21st century equivalent of Mr. Twain's words might be, "Everyone talks about physical fitness but far too few do anything about it."

There is strong evidence that increased physical fitness not only benefits the individual, but our society and our economy as well. Increased physical fitness not only reduces the risk of heart disease but it also reduces the risk of developing diabetes and can help control Type II Diabetes.

Additionally, physical fitness can help older adults build stronger bones and develop muscle; thereby lessening the severity of any fall. Physical fitness also increases worker productivity, contributes to lower workplace absenteeism and improves mental health. A physically fit society also lowers Federal spending to combat diseases like heart disease or hypertension that affect so many of our Medicaid patients.

The importance of physical activity as a benefit to all was recently highlighted by a new study on the economic burden of chronic disease, authored by the Milken Institute. Its findings are stark—the incidence and costs of chronic disease are rising rapidly. If nothing is done to increase the level of fitness in the Nation, the costs of treating the associated diseases will grow by 42 percent over the next decade.

According to the Milken Institute study, we need to move our health care system to one that provides incentives for prevention, wellness and focuses on achieving a healthy body weight. It is evident that an increased amount of physical fitness contributes materially to these goals. Furthermore, as Members of Congress, we should be looking at how to best effectively improve physical fitness.

One way is to remove any inequities under Federal law that prevents the promotion of physical fitness. Two inequities currently exist. First, gym memberships that employees provide for off-site facilities are taxable to the employee as a benefit while those in-house are not—a clear disincentive for both companies and individuals to work fitness into the work day. Second, flexible spending accounts can not be used for physical fitness equipment or activities. Thus, we have a situation where you can use a flexible spending account on medicines to treat illnesses such as diabetes but the funds can not be used to increase the opportunity to exercise, which often controls and sometimes can prevent disease.

In both cases, legislation is currently pending before the Ways and Means Committee to correct these inequities. I urge the members of the Committee and its leadership to consider them expeditiously and to disprove Mark Twain's reworked adage.

---

BIRTHDAY OF GURU NANAK,  
FOUNDER OF SIKHISM

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, this month marks the 538th birthday of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion. As you may know, Guru Nanak was born in 1469 in what is now West Punjab. Every year, Sikhs from around the world gather in Nankana Sahib, where

Guru Nanak was born, to honor him. Let me take this opportunity to honor Guru Nanak also and to congratulate the Sikhs of the world on this important occasion.

Guru Nanak stood up to tyranny. He worked to liberate his people from the tyranny of the Moghul ruler Babar. Today, Sikhs suffer under oppression from Hindu rulers who have murdered over a quarter of a million of them and hold more than 52,000 as political prisoners. They also killed over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Dalits, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. This oppression is no more acceptable than the oppression of Guru Nanak's time.

Sikhs can honor Guru Nanak by standing up to India to secure their own freedom and helping the other minorities secure theirs too. Freedom is the longing of every human heart. God intends for everyone to be free.

We are the primary power in today's world, Madam Speaker. We can use our influence to support the cause of freedom in South Asia. By doing so, we can honor Guru Nanak and all those who have worked for freedom around the world.

The time has come to let India know that if it is going to proclaim itself a democracy, it must act like one. That means allowing everyone, including minorities, to exercise their most basic human rights. Freedom is the birthright of all people. If India will not do so, it should be placed back on the list of nations that do not respect religious freedom, as it was at one time, and the appropriate sanctions should be imposed. In addition, unless India is willing to live up to its democratic principles, we should stop our aid to India in all forms.

Acting like a democracy also means recognizing the right of self-determination. Self-determination is the essence of democracy. Where is the vote on the status of Kashmir that India promised a mere 59 years ago? Does it take 59 years to set up a free and fair vote? Khalistan, the Sikh homeland, declared itself independent 20 years ago. Where is the vote on its status? And what of the Nagas and all the people simply seeking the freedom to rule themselves? The United States carries a lot of weight in the world. If we are serious about spreading democracy, we should work to bring about self-determination for all the peoples and nations of the subcontinent. That would help all people shake off oppression and live in dignity and prosperity, and it is the right thing to do.

Madam Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's open letter regarding the birthday of Guru Nanak into the RECORD.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KHALSA PANTH ON THE PARKASH DEVAS OF GURU NANAK

DEAR KHALSA PANTH: As you know, this month marks the birthday (Parkash Devas) of the first Sikh Guru, Guru Nanak, founder of the Sikh religion. Congratulations to the Sikh Nation on this momentous occasion.

This year marks the 538th anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak. He was born in 1469 and departed this world for his heavenly abode in 1539. Guru Nanak was the founder of the Sikh religion. ("Mary Sikha Jagat Witch Nanak Nirmal Panth Chalaya.") On November 24 in Nankana Sahib, now in West Punjab, Sikhs from around the world will celebrate this occasion. Last year, over 10,000 showed up for the celebration. Crowds enthusiastically raised slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad!" The Sangat showed great devotion and reverence on this pious occasion.

Guru Nanak confronted Babar, the Moghul ruler of the time and called him a Jabbar (oppressor) and spoke out against the tyranny of the rulers of that time. He was even imprisoned by Babar, along with his followers. Today, Sikhs face similar oppression by the Hindu rulers of India.

Just as Guru Nanak spoke out against the Moghul tyrant Babar, we must work to free our Sikh brothers and sisters from the oppression of the Brahmins. It is incumbent on us to achieve freedom for Khalistan, as is our birthright. As former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Professor Darshan Singh has said, "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh."

India has murdered over 250,000 of our Sikh brothers and sisters, as well as more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims, and tens of thousands of other minorities. More than 52,000 Sikhs (and tens of thousands of other minorities) are being held as political prisoners. In 1994, the U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government had paid over 41,000 cash bounties for killing Sikhs.

A MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]" The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide." Guru Nanak did not tolerate oppression; he struggled against it wherever it reared its ugly head. We must be good followers of Guru Nanak by doing the same today. India is also destroying Sikhs economically. The Indian government fixes the price for fertilizer very high and the price for produce very low so Sikh farmers can't even get the cost of production for their crops. This year it fixed the wheat price at Rs 750 per quintal. Even Badal demanded Rs 1000 per quintal. If Punjab farmers could sell their produce across the border in Pakistan and the Middle East, they could easily get close to Rs 1,500 per quintal and would be able to make a living.

India diverts Punjab's river water, its natural resource, to neighboring Haryana and Rajasthan without any compensation. India seeks to destroy the Sikh Nation religiously, economically, and politically. Guru Nanak would not permit them to do so. We must show the spirit of Guru Nanak and reclaim our sovereignty.

Guru Nanak travelled extensively, to the Middle East, where he visited Baghdad, and throughout India, along with his two companions, one Hindu, one Muslim. He spread his message of truthfulness, respect for the rights of individuals, earning an honest living, sharing with the needy, and praying to Almighty God. He was revered by Hindus and Muslims alike. When he left this world, his body was not found. The sheet covering his body was torn in two. The Hindus cremated it and the Muslims buried it, each according to their customs. Overcoming oppression in today's world will earn the Sikhs of today similar respect. We must not accept India's tyrannical rule over our homeland.

Guru Nanak is remembered as Baba Nanak Shah Faqir, Hindu Da Guru, Mussleman Da Pir. He preached the equality of the entire human race, including gender equality. To this day, these are cornerstones of the Sikh religion. But our Sikh brethren in Punjab, Khalistan do not get to experience equality. Instead, they are subjected to the worst kind of oppression by the Indian regime.

India is on the verge of disintegration. Kashmir is about to separate from India. As L.K. Advani said, "If Kashmir goes, India goes." History shows that multinational states such as India are doomed to failure. Countries like Austria-Hungary, India's longtime friend the Soviet Union, Yugo-

slavia, Czechoslovakia, and others prove this point. India is not one country; it is a polyglot like those countries, thrown together for the convenience of the British colonialists. It is doomed to break up as they did. Currently, there are 17 freedom movements within India's borders. It has 18 official languages. Montenegro, which has less than a million people, has become a sovereign country and a member of the United Nations. Now it is the time for the Sikh Nation of Punjab, Khalistan to become independent. The sooner the better.

Guru Nanak gave the Sikhs our identity. We can honor him by reclaiming the freedom that is our birthright: "Raj Bina Na Dharam Chaley Hain, Dharam Bina Sab Dale Male Hain." ("Without political power, a religion cannot flourish and without religion, people are oppressed and persecuted.") Let us stand up for the ideals of Guru Nanak and defend the integrity of the Sikh religion and the Sikh Nation.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH

President,

Council of Khalistan.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A MODELING AND SIMULATION GRANT PROGRAM AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will establish a grant program at the U.S. Department of Education to encourage and enhance the study of Modeling and Simulation at institutions of higher education.

Modeling and Simulation has become an essential component in ensuring that we meet both the defense and domestic challenges of the 21st century. Modeling and Simulation technology allows us to easily and effectively sharpen the tools, procedures, and decisions needed to address difficult and complex problems.

Earlier this year, this body passed by voice vote House Resolution 487, introduced by my Virginia colleague Congressman RANDY FORBES of Virginia, which recognized Modeling and Simulation as a national critical technology.

This critical technology allows us to build and develop computer models of complex systems—whether a car, an airplane, an entire battlefield, or even a major city's evacuation plan—to see how certain actions will affect the end result. These simulations help us develop better and practical analogies of real world situations. Modeling and Simulation is a rapidly expanding field and we must ensure that the United States maintains its competitive edge in this field by expanding Modeling and Simulation programs at our institutions of higher education.

The bill that I am introducing today will ensure that this national critical technology is expanded at our Nation's colleges and universities. Specifically, the bill will establish a grant program for colleges and universities to enhance and improve already established Modeling and Simulation programs. Colleges and universities without Modeling and Simulation

programs can also use the grant to establish their own program. The bill will also create a task force at the Department of Education to support the development of the Modeling and Simulation field, including helping to further define the study and identify the best practices of Modeling and Simulation.

I am proud to represent the people and businesses of the Third Congressional District of Virginia who are leading the way in the Modeling and Simulation field. Numerous colleges and universities in the Hampton Roads area, such as Hampton University, Norfolk State University, and Old Dominion University, have Modeling and Simulation programs. Old Dominion University is one of the few universities that has both an undergraduate degree program and a graduate degree program in Modeling and Simulation. ODU's Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center in Suffolk, Virginia is a premier facility that is second to none.

The grant program established by this legislation will go a long way in helping universities that have Modeling and Simulation programs expand and enhance their programs, as well as helping universities without a Modeling and Simulation program establish their own program. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation to ensure that the United States maintains its competitive advantage in the critical national technology field of Modeling and Simulation.

GERALDINE GENNET

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues, I commend Geraldine Gennet for her outstanding service and dedication to the House of Representatives.

In her 11 years as General Counsel of the House, Geraldine set a standard for professionalism and non-partisanship that will inform the work of the new General Counsel and all future holders of that position.

She created an Office of General Counsel that is respected by all Members of the House and widely recognized for its excellence throughout the legal community. I wish Geraldine continued success and happiness in her new endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD AND  
JENNIFER MILNE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ronald and Jennifer Milne, residents of Perry, Iowa, on recently becoming United States citizens.

Both Ronald and Jennifer are originally from Scotland. Ronald was naturalized on June 29, 2007, in Des Moines, while Jennifer was later naturalized on September 17, 2007 in West Branch, Iowa. The long journey to U.S. citizenship began in the late 1980's when their son was attending Dartmouth College and later

married an American woman. Their daughter also came to America and eventually married an American. After Ronald and Jennifer made several trips to the United States to visit their children, they decided they wanted to be close to their family and move to America.

After years of filling out forms, interviews with the American Embassy, waiting for the processing of their papers, passing the American History test, and paying naturalization fees, Ronald and Jennifer's citizenship was finally granted.

The Milne's love for their family and for this country is extremely admirable, and I commend Ronald and Jennifer for all their hard work and commitment to becoming citizens of our country. I am extremely honored to represent the Milnes in the U.S. Congress and I know that I can speak for all of my colleagues here in officially welcoming them as American citizens. I wish Ronald, Jennifer and their family all the best as Americans and Iowans.

HONORING MARY BERGAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Ms. Mary Bergan, who has dutifully served and enriched the California Federation of Teachers and the labor movement for over 35 years. Her work has affected the lives of teachers and their students throughout the 9th Congressional District, and the great State of California.

Ms. Mary Bergan has been involved in community politics, volunteerism, and education for her entire adult life. After graduating from the prestigious University of California, Berkeley in 1965 with a B.A. in English, Mary promptly joined the Peace Corps. For 3 years Mary lived in Malaysia teaching English language and literature and coaching athletics. In this way, Mary has always been acutely aware of the importance of both healthy minds and bodies for her students. When Mary returned to the United States she became a teacher, and immediately started organizing for the California Federation of Teachers, CFT.

For more than three decades her passion and activism has rightly placed her in leadership positions throughout the State of California, both within her profession as an educator and within the greater Democratic Party. In 1976, while Jerry Brown was Governor of California, Ms. Bergan was chosen as a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions. Shortly after, in the 1980's, Mary was elected as the chair of the Labor Caucus of the California Democratic Party. She continued her role as a delegate at the Democratic National Conventions in 1992, 1996, 2000, and 2004.

In 1991 Mary took her leadership skills, compassion, and dedicated experience to task. She was elected by her peers as president of the CFT. Only a year later, in 1992, Mary was elected vice president of the American Federation of Teachers, AFT, a national position of both great prestige and great responsibility. Not satisfied merely holding a title or position, Mary has participated in and continues to serve in numerous capacities within the AFT. She is a member of the Teachers

Program and Policy Council, where she serves primarily on the council's working group on early childhood education. She is also a member of the organizing committee, the Task Force on Health Care Reform, and the State Federations Advisory Committee.

When she was elected president of the CFT Ms. Bergan pledged "to renew the organization's commitment to excellence in education, to reinforce its efforts to increase education funding and to raise the organization's profile in the media and public eye." This is exactly what Mary has done, and continues to do. She is an outspoken advocate of our children and the conditions of our teachers.

Mary has always been quick to respond to the political issues of the day which most affect education, and she continues to be famously truthful and clear in those responses. Mary does not play with words, she does not play games with her positions on issues, and she does not play with the futures of our children and teachers. Mary has long known that the better the conditions are for our teachers, the better our schools will be. Ultimately, taking care of our teachers affords our students the greatest opportunities for success in their own lives.

A true servant educator in every sense, Mary Bergan has immeasurably contributed to our community, our State, and our Nation. On behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I thank and applaud Mary Bergan for the more than 35 years of unwavering service and inspiration.

RECOGNIZING NEWARK'S NORTH  
WARD CENTER'S ANNUAL GENO  
BARONI BIRTHDAY CELEBRA-  
TION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker. I rise today to recognize the annual celebration at the North Ward Center in Newark, New Jersey honoring the birthday of its inspiration, Monsignor Geno Baroni, on November 15, 2007. Msgr. Baroni—Geno to those of us who knew and loved him—was a most remarkable man, and though he passed from this life more than two decades ago, his memory and his mission remain strong.

Following riots at the end of the 1960s, Msgr. Baroni convinced Stephen Aduato, Sr. to leave the Newark public schools and organize the North Ward Educational and Cultural Center. In 1970, the center began providing information on services available to the residents of Newark's north ward, with a particular emphasis on higher education opportunities for students.

Built on the principles of community, opportunity, responsibility, and equity, the North Ward Center remains true to its mission "to provide educational, cultural, and meaningful social services to low and moderate income families who reside in the greater Newark community. The center plays a major role in helping families overcome barriers to self-sufficiency, works to improve the health and well-being of those families, and helps revitalize their community, thereby improving the quality of life for all residents."

Over the decades, the North Ward Center expanded to include the Newark Business Training Institute, the North Ward Child Development Center, the Robert Treat Academy, and Casa Israel, a state-of-the-art wellness and medical center. The initiatives and services of these five institutions are widely recognized as among the finest, and the center has received many accolades over the years. Yet, true to the standards of its heart—Geno Baroni—the center has never wavered from its mission and founding principles, and it continues to celebrate the diversity of its people. The North Ward Center hosts “the society of Italians who celebrate St. Patrick’s Day” with prominent Italian-Americans honoring Irish-Americans, an annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. remembrance, and a Puerto Rican scholarship dinner recognizing four outstanding north ward students.

Geno Baroni was a many-faceted man, a gifted and passionate leader, a builder, a doer, and thoroughly committed to Christ’s message of social justice. The North Ward Center reflects this charismatic man and his life’s work. Msgr. Geno Baroni’s impression on the lives of those of us privileged to know him and those whose lives he touched through his work is indeed profound. As the North Ward Center honors this extraordinary man by celebrating his birthday, the final words in the Shaker hymn *Lord of the Dance* seem most fitting: “. . . they buried my body and they thought I’d gone, but I am the dance and the dance goes on.”

#### TRIBUTE TO THE SUN DIAL CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sun Dial Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on their 100th anniversary. The chapter has been organized in Ames, IA since October 7, 1907.

The Sun Dial Chapter is named in honor of one of the original members, Hattie Willey, who had a sun dial that belonged to a family ancestor who was a pastor of the Plymouth Colony. A duplicate of that original sun dial was marked in 1914 and is displayed in the Ames Cemetery.

Ada Hayden, one of the most notable members of the Sun Dial Chapter, received her doctorate from Iowa State University in 1918 and was the first woman to do so. Many founders of the chapter left a boundless impression on the community and the state of Iowa. These distinguished names include Adams, Agg, Knapp, Kellogg, Marston, Stanton, Tilden and Willey.

The early goals of the organization remain the same today. They include promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism. During the years of war and depression, Sun Dial collected money, clothing and other necessary items to give to the poor and send to the soldiers serving abroad. Today the chapter contributes to National Daughters of the American Revolution projects and gives an award annually to an outstanding ROTC student at Iowa State University.

Again, I congratulate the Sun Dial Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on this historic anniversary. It is an honor to represent this historic chapter and her members in Congress, and I wish them an equally storied future.

#### HONORING JOYCE M. TAYLOR

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Ms. Joyce M. Taylor. As she retires from an illustrious and dedicated career in the communications industry, we have the opportunity to reflect on her achievements and thank her for her years of service.

Joyce was born in Muskogee, Oklahoma. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma at Norman with a bachelor’s degree in journalism. From this early beginning, Joyce began her long career, traveling and working throughout the Nation, assuming leadership positions in some of our most influential communications companies.

Ms. Taylor first served as the public relations manager in Oklahoma City for Southwestern Bell Telephone. After that, she held a number of communications positions, which included assuming responsibilities in advertising, employee information, news relations, public policy development and federal relations. Her capacities have taken her from Oklahoma City to St. Louis to Washington, D.C. Finally, she came to California, during an important merger between SBC and Pacific Telesis.

At the time of the merger, Ms. Taylor was serving as the executive director of external affairs for SBC Communications, Inc. Her work during this delicate moment in the communications industry directly helped earn the support from many Bay Area community and consumer organizations for the merger. This resulted in Ms. Taylor’s appointment as AT&T’s Senior Vice President for External Affairs—Northern California.

During all of this time, and throughout her professional endeavors, Joyce has always contributed to her community. Joyce has used her extraordinary talents to contribute to a number of worthy causes. From the arts to education, from industry to our neighborhoods, Joyce has always given back. It is our great fortune that the 9th Congressional District and the greater Northern California Area became her community as she grew in her capacities at AT&T.

In April 1997, Joyce Taylor was appointed to oversee regulatory, legislative, governmental and external affairs activities for AT&T in Northern California. Continuing her natural enthusiasm and belief in charity and the growth of communities, Joyce has become integrally involved in many boards and organizations in the Greater Bay Area.

Joyce serves on the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Council, the Bay Area Economic Forum, First Tee of San Jose, the San Francisco School Alliance Foundation, the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, the Tech Museum of Innovation, United Way of the Bay Area, and Women’s Forum West. In addition, Ms. Taylor is a member of the Northwestern Regional Board of Operation Hope.

Dedicated to the arts and education, Ms. Taylor also serves on the Board of Trustees of the San Francisco Ballet and as a member of the Executive Campaign Advisory Board of the United Negro College Fund.

It certainly is not difficult to see how this remarkable woman has become such an invaluable part of our community.

On behalf of California’s 9th Congressional District, I would like to thank and applaud our beloved Joyce M. Taylor on the occasion of her retirement. I am sure that her contributions to our community, and the value that she brings to the young leaders following in her example, are only just beginning.

#### HONORING ROBERT E. BONNELL

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert E. Bonnell of Toledo, Ohio. Toledo has been called a community of families. Bob Bonnell, an esteemed citizen of that community, seemed to have been born to create and embody “Fireman Freddie, a friendly, caring, and wise man, who assumed a larger meaning as a loving father for all our community’s children. Bob’s vocation as a teacher and firefighter saved countless lives as children learned how to save themselves and the lives of their loved ones. They learned new lessons from a Santalike man who cared for them as he would his own children.

Robert E. Bonnell remains a legend in the Toledo Community for his dedication to his community as a firefighter and to the education of the youth of Toledo about the value of safety. Mr. Bonnell became the department’s first “Fireman Freddy” in 1973. It happened soon after the idea of a fire safety program—and the birth of Fireman Freddy—originated in 1972 when Mr. Bonnell was a ladder truck driver at Station 6 at Starr and Euclid avenues, where he seemed to have a special rapport with school groups who came to tour the firehouse. He was asked to start the educational program and thought it would be a six-month assignment. But Mr. Bonnell hadn’t stopped his two-schools-a-day, five-day-a-week visits since January 1973, he told *The Blade* in an interview in December 1980, just before he retired.

“To tell you the truth,” Mr. Bonnell said in a 1974 *Toledo Blade* article, “children understand more than you think they do. I never have to talk down to them. I just talk to them in the same way that I talk to adults. For some reason, it works.” By the time he retired, Mr. Bonnell talked to more than 125,000 elementary students in Toledo public and Catholic schools and the Washington Local school district about fire prevention and fire safety.

Robert E. Bonnell at age 80, passed away Monday, October 29, 2007 in St. Charles Mercy Hospital of congestive heart failure. He will be fondly remembered by the residents who recall being taught by the fireman about fire safety when they were in the fourth and sixth grades.

Mr. Bonnell joined the Toledo Fire Department in 1956 and then served for 25 years, most of them as the department’s “Fireman Freddie” until his retirement in 1981. During

his early retirement he worked as a funeral attendant for the Eggleston Meinert Pavley Funeral Home in Oregon. "He was a good old country boy, and he liked kids," retired Toledo Deputy Fire Chief Robert Schwanzl said. "He was a storyteller and he had a special knack for telling stories and talking to children. And he was very dependable."

Born in Weston, West Virginia, on February 22, 1927, to Onal and Genevieve (Beamer) Bonnell, Mr. Bonnell, graduated from Lewis County High School in 1945, when he enlisted in the Army. During the last months of World War II, he was a staff sergeant in Germany. After his honorable discharge in 1947, he returned to West Virginia and later that year married his high school sweetheart, JoAnne Teter. A short time later, the couple settled in Toledo.

In his free time, Mr. Bonnell, who in retirement lived in Northwood and most recently in Walbridge, enjoyed collecting cuff links, of which he had 4,000, and marbles, of which he had more than 50,000. He also liked visiting garage sales, hunting, and fishing. He loved spending time with his family and being "Pudding Papa" to his great-grandson.

"Dad had a zest for life," his son, Gregory, said "He loved people, loved his family, and he loved to have a good time. [And] he was a hard worker and a dedicated individual." Mr. Bonnell was a funeral attendant for the Eggleston Meinert Pavley Funeral Home in Oregon during his early retirement years.

His memberships included the Arthur Daly American Legion Post, the National Rifle Association, Paragon Lotus Lodge F&AM, Zenobia Shrine (Stewards, Hillbillies and Wood County) VFW Post #2510 and 40-8 Society of the American Legion, and the Scottish Rite, all in Toledo. In 1988, he received the Meritorious Service Award from the Scottish Rite where he had life membership.

Surviving are his loving wife, JoAnne, with whom he just celebrated 60 years of marriage (June 28, 1947); children, Gregory (Mary) Bonnell and Beverly (Kevin) Sawyer; grandchildren, Angie and Brianne Sawyer, Rob, Mike, Adam and Brian Bonnell and great-grandchildren, Kleiston and Ria. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, his two brothers and a sister.

He will be missed by the Sisters of Notre Dame especially Sister Mary Theresa. He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered by all the lives he touched in our Toledo community. The world was made a better place by the life of Bob Bonnell. May his works inspire others who follow in his golden steps.

#### TRIBUTE TO VAN HARDEN AND BONNIE LUCAS

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Van Harden and Bonnie Lucas of the "Van and Bonnie in the Morning" radio show. Van and Bonnie are Iowa radio icons and winners of multiple Marconi Awards, including the 2007 "Personality of the Year" among medium-sized market radio stations.

Van Harden was raised in Adel, Iowa, where he developed a deep love for small Iowa communities and dreamt of being on the radio when he grew up. His dream became a reality after graduating from Drake University in 1973, where he majored in broadcast journalism and got his first on-air job with KDLS-AM in Perry, Iowa. After jobs in Tulsa, Oklahoma at KWEN-FM and KRNT-AM in Des Moines, he became the host of the morning program at 1040 WHO-AM in Des Moines in 1986.

Van's current co-host, Bonnie Lucas of Monroe, Iowa, has been with the WHO morning program for 13 years. Bonnie's first job in radio began in 1979 at KRNT, where she was a former co-worker of Van's. In the seven and a half years Bonnie spent at KRNT, she worked in the traffic department, served as secretary to the General Manager, worked as the Assistant Sales Manager and finally went into sales for KRNT. After Bonnie started her own small fitness center business and worked for a communications company, she tried out for Van's co-host position in August 1994 and has been with the program ever since.

Van and Bonnie are up every morning by 3:30 a.m. and on the air at 4:59 a.m. Their creativity, family-friendly humor and enthusiasm have made WHO's morning show the most listened to in the state. They do a phenomenal job at connecting with Iowans and starting their day off with a smile.

Van and Bonnie provide a valuable service to the state of Iowa, and I am honored to recognize this most recent accomplishment. I wish Van, Bonnie and all of their coworkers at WHO the best of luck and continued success.

#### HONORING JOE MORGAN

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legendary Joe Morgan as the Board of Directors of Alameda County Youth Development, Inc. (ACYD) come together in the 9th Congressional District to pay tribute to Mr. Morgan and celebrate his impressive legacy.

Many are aware of Joe Morgan's incredible athletic accomplishments. His life has served as an inspiration to our youth, especially in communities of color, where Mr. Morgan's example has served as a symbol of the power of perseverance in overcoming obstacles and living up to one's great potential.

Even though Mr. Morgan has made significant contributions to our world in his capacities as a role model through sports, his contributions to our community as a steward of our youth programs and charitable causes has created an equally positive impact on thousands of people. Mr. Morgan has been one of the most generous and committed supporters of youth programs in Oakland, California for over four decades.

Joe Morgan was born in Bonham, Texas in 1944. At the age of 10, he moved to Oakland with his family, and has called the East Bay his home ever since. Mr. Morgan is a true product and member of the Oakland family.

He attended Brookfield Elementary, Elmhurst Junior High, and graduated with recognition for his academic and athletic prowess from Oakland's Castlemont High School in 1961. Mr. Morgan went on to receive an Associate's Degree from Merritt College in 1963.

After graduating from Merritt College, Joe Morgan quickly rose to prominence as he launched one of the greatest careers in Major League Baseball. In 1963, Mr. Morgan signed his first professional contract with the Houston Colt 45's. A year later, he emerged as a key member of the Houston Astros, eventually going on to be named the National League Rookie of the Year in 1965. He remained with the Astros until 1972, when he was traded to the Cincinnati Reds, one of the all-time great teams that was given the moniker "The Big Red Machine" after the franchise strung together a series of World Series Championships during the 1970s, an accomplishment that continues to be recognized as one of the great achievements in American sports history.

After completing a successful career in professional baseball that eventually led to Mr. Morgan being inducted in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, he returned to school. This act of personal determination exemplified his unwavering dedication to education and personal growth. Mr. Morgan received a B.S. in Physical Education from California State University, Hayward, just as he had promised his mother he would do many years ago.

These tremendous accomplishments, however, were just one aspect of Mr. Morgan's capacities as an extraordinary person. Fame and fortune were not satisfying for Mr. Morgan if he was not able to use his experience and energy to give back to his community. Mr. Morgan has always displayed incredible dedication to his family, an unwavering love for children, and a personal concern with those around him and his community. Mr. Morgan continues to actively support the Young America Baseball Program and the Oakland Unified School District Sports Program, doing what he can to ensure that those institutions have the resources necessary to serve the youth of our community.

Harnessing so much compassion for his community, Mr. Morgan was compelled to create the Joe Morgan Youth Foundation. His Foundation provides many much needed services for our youth, including scholarships, financial support programs, and innovative community initiatives.

This year, in recognition of his extraordinary life, accomplishments, and dedication to our community, ACYD has presented Mr. Morgan with its first George P. Scotlan Outstanding Citizen Award. Mr. Morgan is certainly one of Oakland's most outstanding citizens, and an excellent choice for such a prestigious honor.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Morgan as he receives due recognition for his contributions. The community of Oakland, especially those impassioned about the well being and future of our youth, salute Joe Morgan today, and we look forward to witnessing his lasting and positive impact on the lives of our children.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRMINGHAM AREA SENIORS COORDINATING COUNCIL

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council as they celebrate their 30th Anniversary today.

The Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council was formed in 1978 to improve the coordination of senior citizen programs and services, and to provide a central source of information and referral in the Birmingham Public Schools community.

Today, the Council has nearly 1,700 members who value independence, lifelong learning, and community involvement. Not only do Council members enjoy the benefits of an active senior center program, but they are also volunteers who deliver services to their aging neighbors. These services are vital to enabling seniors to remain in their own homes, and to live with independence and dignity. Each year, more than 500 senior volunteers provide outreach service to other older adults in the community, evidencing their motto of "Seniors Serving Seniors."

The Council offers a variety of educational classes, recreational programs, social activities, and travel opportunities to help older adults stay healthy and happy. In addition, the Council's many outreach services to the elderly are accomplished with a small staff and hundreds of senior volunteers in partnership with many local and state agencies and organizations.

The generosity of the Birmingham Public Schools, the City of Birmingham, the Villages of Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, and Franklin, local service clubs, agencies, foundations, churches, businesses and hundreds of caring individuals to fund this unique delivery of services that have been the staple of the Council for the past 30 years.

Madam Speaker, today I commend the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council. I am proud to recognize the achievements and service of the Council over the past 30 years, and wish them even more success over the next 30 years.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DECLARE LUNG CANCER A PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 335, which expresses the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to lung cancer as a public health priority and the recommendations of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group of the National Cancer Institute. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Rep. LOIS CAPPS for introducing this im-

portant resolution and for her continued efforts on behalf of those affected by lung cancer.

As many of us know all too well, lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women in the United States. While overall advancements in cancer research, treatment, and detection in recent years provide great hope, there is still much to do, especially in the field of lung cancer. The 5-year survival rates have risen significantly for breast, prostate, and colon cancer, but unfortunately, the gains for lung cancer remain modest at best.

For my family and me, these statistics are all too real. In April 2006, my father-in-law, Joseph L. Ercole, was diagnosed with non-small cell adenoma carcinoma stage III-b and 9 months later, on February 11, 2007, he died from lung cancer. While his story is not unique, it brought to my attention the need to shine a spotlight on this disease. Clearly, a coordinated and comprehensive research effort, like those used to tackle other cancers, is needed to achieve significant increases in lung cancer survivability rates and prevent other families from suffering the same loss.

H. Res. 335, like S. Res. 87 passed by the Senate in August, clearly states our goals—to have lung cancer declared a public health priority and to reduce the lung cancer mortality rate by 50 percent by 2015—and a pathway to achieve it. Working together these goals can become reality.

I urge my colleagues in the House to join us in this fight and pass H. Res. 335

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. MELVIN L. WATT**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 9, 2007*

Mr. WATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3996, which will address one of the most unfair provisions in the tax code that imposes an alternative minimum tax on so many of my constituents to whom it was never intended to apply. To some of my constituents, including the retired couple that lives across the street from me, this is among the most critical issues they face.

There is one specific tax provision being extended in this bill that I want to address specifically, the extension of the New Markets Tax Credit, NMTC, program. This tax program is critical to the revitalization of struggling communities and census tracts in our country that are in critical need of help.

There is one critical problem with the NMTC program that needs to be addressed. The Financial Services Committee's Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, which I chair, held a hearing on October 30 entitled "Preserving and Expanding Minority Banks," to review unique challenges facing minority- and women-owned financial institutions. A real concern revealed at this hearing was that minority-owned financial institutions have not been receiving allocations of credits under the NMTC program. Over the life of the program, only six minority banks have received allocations under the NMTC program and in the last round of allocations, of 61 recipients, only one

minority bank was awarded new markets tax credits. This represented just \$120 million of a total of \$3.9 billion in tax credits awarded.

I believe that facilitating greater access to the NMTC program for minority and women-owned financial institutions will improve the program and help ensure the revitalization of low-income urban and rural areas. I appreciate the agreement of Chairman RANGEL and Subcommittee Chairman NEAL to work with me, and perhaps to have a joint hearing with our Financial Services Subcommittee, to explore effective ways to increase participation in the NMTC program for minority- and women-owned financial institutions.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD DIABETES DAY

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 211, commemorating World Diabetes Day on November 14, 2007.

The search for a cure for diabetes is a cause close to my heart. Both my parents were afflicted with the disease, which now strikes 246 million people worldwide. Without early screening, prevention and awareness, this number is expected to rise to 380 million by 2025. In the United States, diabetes is the sixth leading cause of death. Across the world, diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death, with 80 percent of diabetes cases now being found in the developing world. The case for diabetes awareness is so compelling that President Bush recently declared November 2007 to be National Diabetes Month. I would like to add his recent remarks on the subject to the RECORD.

It is clear that action must be taken to slow the pace of what can only be described as an epidemic of diabetes. This year, the theme of the World Diabetes Day Campaign focuses on raising awareness of diabetes in children and adolescents. More than 200 children get diabetes every day, making it one of those most chronic diseases of childhood. Additionally, this demographic faces unique challenges when diagnosed with diabetes, as the disease can interfere with the normal developmental tasks of childhood and adolescence, which include succeeding in school and transitioning to adulthood. Through raising awareness, the World Diabetes Day Campaign focuses on improving early screening to catch early incidences of diabetes in children and promoting healthy lifestyles to prevent the onset of Type 2 diabetes.

I am proud to lend my support to H. Con. Res. 211. Together we can limit the incidence of this debilitating disease by spreading the message of awareness, treatment and prevention. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH, 2007—A PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Diabetes is a debilitating disease that affects millions of Americans of all ages and all walks of life. National Diabetes Month is an opportunity to raise awareness about risk factors, prevention, and treatment of this serious disease.

Diabetes is a chronic illness that leaves the body unable to produce or properly use insulin to maintain healthy blood glucose levels. The two most common forms of the disease that affect our citizens are Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. Type 1 diabetes, once known as juvenile diabetes, is usually diagnosed in children and young adults who are unable to produce insulin and require daily medication. Type 2 diabetes, the most common form of the disease, is often attributed to lifestyle risk factors and can be controlled by a modified diet, regular physical activity, and medication. Americans can take steps to control the disease and lower the risk of complications such as heart disease, stroke, and kidney disease by maintaining healthy eating and exercise habits, and consulting with a doctor about diabetes testing.

My Administration is committed to providing better care for people living with diabetes and furthering efforts to find a cure. We have supported research initiatives and education programs that encourage healthy living, and we have also modified Medicare coverage to include diabetes screenings. This year, the National Institutes of Health estimates that more than \$1 billion will be spent on diabetes research. By working together, we can help identify problems early, manage them before they grow worse, and help ensure more Americans live longer, healthier lives.

Throughout National Diabetes Month, we recognize the medical professionals, scientists, researchers, and all those whose efforts have made a positive difference in the fight against diabetes. By raising public awareness, we can help combat the effects of diabetes in our society and bring hope to children and families living with this disease.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2007 as National Diabetes Month. I call upon all Americans to learn more about the risk factors and symptoms associated with diabetes and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

## SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 760, which recognizes October as Children's Health Month and supports the goals and ideals of this annual designation.

I was proud to introduce this resolution with Representative KATHY CASTOR. As cochairmen of the Congressional Children's Health Care Caucus, we are committed to building bipartisan support for efforts to facilitate access to care for the uninsured, seek cures for debilitating diseases and chronic conditions, and promote preventive health and wellness measures for America's children.

This resolution recognizes the importance of raising awareness of children's health needs

and commends the health care professionals who provide for them. It also reaffirms our Nation's commitment to improving children's health and encourages State officials, non-profit organizations and businesses to join the House in supporting these objectives.

I am grateful for the enthusiastic backing this resolution enjoys from more than 100 Members spanning both sides of the aisle, and I urge all of my colleagues to support its passage.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was on an official leave of absence for a medical appointment. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 1082, H.R. 3315, which I cosponsored, to provide that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center be known as Emancipation Hall; "yea" on rollcall No. 1083, H.R. 1593, which I cosponsored, the Second Chance Act; "yea" on rollcall No. 1084, H.R. 3403, the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act, and "yea" on rollcall No. 1085, H.R. 3461, Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed Rollcall vote No. 1085 (H.R. 3461) and Rollcall vote No. 1084 (H.R. 3403). Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall No. 1085: "yes," Rollcall No. 1084: "yes."

## DANDY-WALKER SYNDROME AND HYDROCEPHALUS

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 163, expressing the sense of the Congress in support of further research and activities to increase public awareness, professional education, diagnosis, and treatment of Dandy-Walker Syndrome and hydrocephalus.

In 2005 while awaiting the birth of their first child Ryan, Andrea and Eric Cole of Kensington, Maryland learned that he would be born with a rare birth defect called Dandy-Walker Syndrome and a condition called hydrocephalus. Ryan was born on May 3, 2005, 3 months premature and weighing 1 pound 15 ounces, at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. He would spend a total of 156 days in the hospital during his first year of life.

Today, the Cole family leads the fight against Dandy-Walker Syndrome and is the in-

spiration behind my efforts against this terrible birth defect. On learning that no national organization existed to advocate on behalf of individuals with Dandy-Walker Syndrome, Eric and Andrea took the necessary steps to found the only national non-profit organization for Dandy-Walker Syndrome, and located it in Maryland's Eighth Congressional District, which I represent. Today, the Dandy-Walker Alliance remains the only non-profit organization committed to educational and informational activities, programs and publications and supporting non-partisan research and events to increase public awareness of Dandy-Walker Syndrome. The Dandy-Walker Alliance supports all efforts to determine the cause(s) of, to find the cure for and to ameliorate the effects of Dandy-Walker Syndrome.

Dandy-Walker Syndrome is a congenital malformation of the cerebellum that can cause developmental delay, is frequently associated with hydrocephalus that can lead to an enlarged head circumference, and can cause neurological damage possibly leading to death. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that Dandy-Walker Syndrome may affect as many as 1 in 5,000 live born infants of which approximately 70 to 90 percent will develop hydrocephalus. Treatment for individuals with Dandy-Walker generally consists of treating the associated problems rather than the syndrome itself. Hydrocephalus is treated today the same way that it was in 1952, by inserting a shunt into the brain to drain off excess fluid.

In addition to what the Coles are doing with the Dandy-Walker Alliance, a filmmaker from Colorado with a nephew affected by Dandy-Walker is completing the first-ever documentary on Dandy-Walker Syndrome called "Dandy Kids," which will premiere in January 2008. A couple in Florida was also inspired to film a commercial with their three-year-old son affected by Dandy-Walker and hydrocephalus to help promote the need for blood donations since the brain surgeries to treat his hydrocephalus often require transfusions.

Dandy-Walker Syndrome involves many complex issues. That is why the Director of the National Institutes of Health should continue the current collaboration, with respect to Dandy-Walker Syndrome, among the National Human Genome Research Institute, the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and the Office of Rare Diseases.

Further research into the epidemiology, diagnosis, pathophysiology, disease burden, and improved treatment of Dandy-Walker Syndrome should be conducted and supported. The National Institutes of Health should take the lead in sponsoring an annual workshop to increase awareness and set national research priorities for Dandy-Walker Syndrome and hydrocephalus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention should also form a coordinating committee for Dandy-Walker Syndrome and hydrocephalus research, which would annually report to the public its findings on the progress in the epidemiology, pathophysiology, disease burden, treatment improvements, diagnoses, and awareness for Dandy-Walker Syndrome and hydrocephalus.

Finally, public awareness and professional education regarding Dandy-Walker research

should increase through partnerships between the Federal Government and patient advocacy organizations, such as the Dandy-Walker Alliance and the Hydrocephalus Association.

Madam Speaker, let's tell families like the Coles that they are not alone in their fight against Dandy-Walker Syndrome. Certainly we can lend a hand in helping to further raise awareness of Dandy-Walker Syndrome and to act on behalf of disabled members in society who cannot advocate for themselves. I think we all agree that partnerships between the Federal Government and advocacy groups are important to the American people. That is why I urge my colleagues from both parties to join me in co-sponsoring House Concurrent Resolution 163 to raise awareness for Dandy-Walker Syndrome and hydrocephalus.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, yesterday I missed Rollcall vote No. 1082, on passage of H.R. 3315. I strongly support this legislation, which would provide that the great hall of the new Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall, and I would have voted "yes" on passage had I been present.

#### VETERANS DAY PRAYER

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as grateful Americans provide deserved tributes for our courageous veterans, I have fortunately been provided a profound poem from Clinton B. Campbell of Beaufort, South Carolina.

[From the Journal of New Jersey Poets]

#### MY VETERANS DAY PRAYER

(By Clinton B. Campbell)

Lord, when the pull of my bed lures me to stay another hour,  
please remind me of taps being played for the fallen,

of the tears that reach my cheek after each name is read,  
the ones I knew personally and the ones old-timers talk about in awe.

After the crowd stumbles through the Pledge of Allegiance

I want to be there and listen with all my heart

while the winner of this year's essay contest quiets the crowd

reminding us of why we are paying our respects.

When the closing prayer is read I want to look around in honor at my fellow vets, the men and the women in their timeworn uniforms.

Let me see them as they were, splendidly marching forward

with the courage that allows us to have a choice of whether we come here today or not.

#### DIRECTING PROVISION OF GRANTS FOR INTERNET CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4134, the Internet Crime Prevention Education Program Act.

In recent years, the Internet has grown to be a thriving educational resource. Adults and children alike have become dependent upon the Internet to provide an abundance of information at their fingertips. However, this wonderful educational resource may also expose young people to new dangers, such as the 750,000 online predators children may encounter every time they surf the web. In fact, one in five children received an online sexual solicitation last year alone.

The prevalence of online predators is a frightening reality and it is clear to me that something must be done. For this reason, it is essential that we provide our schools and law enforcement agents with the necessary tools to teach children how to protect themselves from these Internet dangers.

The bill before us today provides grants for Internet crime prevention education and takes us one step closer to making the Internet a safer place for kids. It is important that we support programs like i-SAFE, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting youth online through developing the resources to teach internet safety. The competitive grant program created by H.R. 4134 will provide funds to organizations dedicated to Internet crime prevention education. Through education and awareness, we can ensure a more hospitable web environment, so that children may be free to utilize the benefits of the Internet without being exposed to its dangers.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to support the legislation before us and I call on this body to vote in favor of Internet crime prevention.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO HAROLD SAMUEL NELSON

#### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, every Member of the House of Representatives has a cherished friend and mentor back home. That dear friend is what keeps a member grounded to the realities of his or her district which can sometimes become obscure in the heat of legislative debate. With the passing of that friend, a huge void is created which often cannot be filled.

Harold Samuel Nelson was born on June 18, 1918, and left this mortal world on May 29, 2006. It has now been more than a year that I, and many others, no longer have the benefit of his wisdom and advice. I now rise to honor him and how he lived his life.

Throughout his long life, Mr. Nelson engaged in a number of different professions: farmer, philanthropist, and attorney. In 1952, he married Helen Ridgway, and they made

their lives on a dairy farm in New Braunfels where they raised their daughters, JoMerre and Elizabeth. On September 19, 2001, Elizabeth blessed the Nelson family with their first grandson, Samuel Wilder Nelson who will carry forward the proud tradition of the Nelson name.

After his experiences with other dairy organizations, Mr. Nelson formed Associated Milk Producers Inc., AMPI, so that dairy farmers could market milk and dairy products. Under his management, AMPI grew to encompass the better part of our Nation with over 40,000 members. He persuaded small dairy farmers to work together and thereafter, he was referred to as the "grandfather of the dairy industry." He saw that organizing would strengthen each dairy farmer individually.

In the late 1960s, Mr. Nelson convinced livestock farmers to cooperate to eradicate the screwworm, a dreaded livestock parasite. He helped organize and elicit funds to implement a novel strategy. Sterilized screwworm flies would be released at a rate of 150 million per week until they ceased to exist. His efforts resulted in a never before seen level of coordination among dairy farmers throughout the Americas to end the blight of the screwworm.

Later in his life, Mr. Nelson set his energies and talents to honoring his mother's commitment to education. He established the Clara Freshour Nelson Foundation so that students, hundreds by now, could afford tuition for a fine arts education.

I had the privilege of giving words of remembrance at Mr. Nelson's service. It was a sad day for everyone gathered in the church who had to confront our sorrow in missing his physical presence, love, support and wise counsel.

While acknowledging that no one had any control over Mr. Nelson leaving our physical presence, we had complete control of keeping him spiritually alive within us by living the "life lessons" he had taught us.

Mr. Nelson taught through example. He was generous to a fault. Not merely financially generous, but generous with his time, energy and empathy. Simply put, if it was important to you, it was important to him. He was forthright and made no excuses for who he was and what he believed in. He "told it like it was" and could size up a person or business transaction with clarity and precision.

His greatest love was love of family; as a loving son, caring brother, devoted father and doting grandfather. Yet he was known to share his love with his "extended family", from dear friends Paul Alagia and Jose "Pepé" Gonzalez to name a couple, to those devoted caretakers that were near him as his days grew shorter: Alice, Ada, Brenda, Quolonda, Beverly, Rhonda and Emily.

He was the consummate gentleman; he tipped his hat, stood when a lady walked into a room; simple gestures of something greater which was a genuine respect. He was a voracious reader, loved poetry and he could play the piano and violin. He encouraged and supported students in the study and appreciation of music.

Imbued with a powerful social conscience, he was a "yellow dog Democrat" who firmly declared that "you had to be a Democrat to believe in the Beatitudes".

Mr. Nelson was part of what is referred today as "the Greatest Generation". Tom

Brokaw in his book was describing Harold S. Nelson when he wrote: "The World War II generation did what was expected of them. But they never talked about it. It was part of their code."

The character of Mr. Nelson was formed on the anvil of adversity. His innate sense of justice and fairness made him "a man ahead of his time." Yet, I believe he shared the same philosophy expressed by the late and former Congressman Carl Elliott who upon receiving the JFK Profile in Courage Award for fighting segregation at great personal cost said: "There are those who said I was ahead of my time, but they were wrong. I believe that I was always behind the times that ought to be."

Harold S. Nelson taught us about fundamental values and behavior: that your word was your bond, your handshake was a contract, you conducted business "standing and facing". As Paul Alagia said "Harold never ran out on a friend." Again, just like Congressman Carl Elliott, Mr. Nelson "never swapped an old friend for a new one". With the advent of computers and all the new technological gadgets designed to help us get through an ever increasingly complex world, Mr. Nelson's approach was "Give me a Big Chief tablet and a pencil."

An observer of modern American life recently lamented: "We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We love too seldom, and hate too often. We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life, not life to years."

May Mr. Nelson's greatest "life lesson to us spare us this dilemma. So when the world overwhelms us, the pace too hectic, let us heed Mr. Nelson's advice "give me a Big Chief tablet and a pencil". Let us return to the basic goodness of life: honesty, integrity and compassion.

Harold Samuel Nelson (known and loved as Daddy, Grandpa, Harold and Mr. Nelson) would have even helped us grieve. He would have told us not to be sad, then cry with us; he would have told us to march on, then he would have taken the first step, and lastly, knowing his love for poetry, he would have read "When I Must Leave You" by Helen S. Rice:

When I must leave you  
For a Little while  
Please do not grieve  
And shed wild tears  
And hug your sorrow to you  
Through the years,  
But start out bravely  
With a gallant smile; And for my sake  
And in my name  
Live on and do  
All things the same,  
Feed not your loneliness  
On empty days,  
But fill each waking hour  
In useful ways,  
Reach out your hand  
In comfort and in cheer  
And I will comfort you  
And hold you near; And never, never  
Be afraid to die,  
For I am waiting for you in the sky.

Harold Samuel Nelson lives on in our hearts and souls.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained yesterday attending a funeral. I missed rollcall vote Nos. 1082 through 1085. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all four votes.

## REMEMBERING UKRAINE'S HISTORY

### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to record painful events in Ukraine's past. Throughout Ukraine's more than millennium-long history, it has often been attacked and occupied due to its geo-political location, fertile lands and rich natural resources. Because the Ukrainian nation continuously fought to ward off the enemies and preserve its freedom, many occupying powers resorted to oppression in order to maintain their control of Ukraine. It is widely held that one of the most brutal policies designed to subjugate Ukraine was carried out by the Stalinist regime of the former Soviet Union.

History records that in order to suppress the numerous rebellions of the Ukrainian peasantry to the collectivization and Russification policies aggressively implemented by the Communists, Stalin set out to destroy the entire nation. His government imposed draconian grain quotas and enforced their fulfillment with brutality seldom seen in history. Secret police and specially created brigades were instructed to confiscate everything down to the last grain. They also confiscated money and any valuables in order to deprive people of any means for survival. Severe and swift punishments—often death—were delivered for any attempt to steal even a miniscule amount of grain or other foodstuffs. The Royal Consulate of Italy reported in 1933: "through barbaric requisitions . . . the Moscow government has effectively engineered not so much a scarcity . . . but rather a complete absence of every means of subsistence throughout the Ukrainian countryside." Stalin also sealed off the Ukrainian border to prevent migration. In 1932, a directive was issued to arrest anyone who tried to leave Ukraine without proper documentation. According to Russian scholar Ivnitsky, 219,460 individuals were arrested per this directive and 186,588 of them were sent back to their villages to die.

Eyewitness accounts provide vivid and gruesome details. Here is what one witness described to the House Select Committee on Communist Aggression in 1954: "The farmers with faces and legs swollen from the hunger of the famine were invading the town and were dying in masses in the streets. The administration of the town was unable to bury the dead farmers in time, and there was a repulsive odor in the air during all this time. The police, or rather militia patrols, driving along the streets, collected the corpses. They also took those completely exhausted by starvation

who arrived in town to ask for 'a little bit of bread', put them on the mound of corpses saying, 'you'll get there, don't worry.' I saw this all myself, and quite often."

It is hard and painful to comprehend that these actions were not known to the world, in part because of the denial of the famine-genocide by Soviet authorities and refusal of offers of international aid. The tragic events of 1932–1933 in Ukraine remained hidden for many decades. The world is still largely unaware of the cruelty with which the totalitarian Stalinist regime killed 7–10 million innocent people in an effort to break a people who strove for freedom and independence. The Ukrainian American community has done much to change this situation. On the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian famine-genocide, we remind the world of the honors that the Ukrainian nation survived and honor the memory of the innocent victims of the inhumane policies of the Stalinist regime. Remembering the events of the past helps to ensure that this type of tragedy does not recur anywhere in the world.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, October 13, 2007, I inadvertently missed three votes. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

- (1) Rollcall No. 1083: "Yes" On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the resolution.
- (2) Rollcall No. 1084: "Yes" On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the resolution.
- (3) Rollcall No. 1085: "Yes" On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the resolution.

## HONORING CLARE AND MARYELLEN BERRYHILL

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of Clare and Maryellen Berryhill for their tremendous dedication to promoting agriculture in the Central Valley. The Berryhills are being honored at The Greater Yosemite Council Boy Scouts of America's Annual Distinguished Citizens Dinner on October 24, 2007 in Modesto, CA.

Clare Berryhill was born and raised in the Central Valley. He was a third generation farmer and winegrape grower. Mr. Berryhill attended Modesto Junior College and the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he majored in agriculture. Clare Berryhill and Maryellen Rossel, of Modesto, were married in 1949.

While managing their ranch in Ceres, CA, both became very involved in the community. Mr. Berryhill operated a fruit dehydrating business, and in 1960 he was named Young Farmer in Stanislaus County. He was the first president of the California Winegrape Growers Association. He was also one of many generations in the family to serve on the Ceres Unified School Board of Trustees. During this

time Mrs. Berryhill helped to manage the farm, taught music at Denair High School and was involved in the Parent Teacher Association.

In 1969, Mr. Berryhill's involvement turned to politics. He was asked to run for the California Assembly and won. His victory was a crucial one and he was even congratulated, in person, by then Governor Ronald Reagan. He served as an Assemblyman from 1969 to 1970. Later, he was elected into office as a California State senator, where in 1976 he successfully authored landmark legislation to establish the annual "Grape Crush Report". This is a reporting process that became essential to the economic wellbeing of the winegrape and wine industries. Also, as State senator, he was able to have enough land donated to Modesto Junior College to expand the campus. He served as a State senator from 1972 to 1976.

One last service to the California government came after Mr. Berryhill's retirement. He was asked by Governor George Deukmejian to serve as California Director (Secretary) of Agriculture. At the time, California was battling African bees, Mexican fruit flies, gypsy moths, apple maggots and a contamination scare with cheese, watermelons, and grapes. With his previous leadership experience and his knowledge of agriculture, Mr. Berryhill was able to help develop an agriculture policy in California that continues to stand today. Due to his efforts in resolving these problems, he was featured in "People" magazine.

Mrs. Berryhill and their five children Betsy, Tom, Lynne, Janie, and Bill supported Mr. Berryhill in all of his campaigns. They volunteered by walking precincts, playing musical instruments and traveling throughout the districts in the Berryhill Band Wagon. Mr. and Mrs. Berryhill enjoyed their family, community, politics, art and the land. They traveled between three homes in their retirement: a cattle ranch in Montana, a home in San Carlos, Mexico, and their original ranch in Ceres, California. Clare Berryhill passed away in March of 1996 and Maryellen Berryhill passed away in July of this year. They have left a legacy that is not easily matched. They are survived by their five children, eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor Clare and Maryellen Berryhill for the impact that they had on agriculture in the Central Valley and the State of California. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring their lives and wishing the best for their family.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately yesterday, November 13, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 3315, H.R. 1593, H.R. 3403, and H.R. 3461 and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 1082 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3315, to provide that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 1083 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R.

1593, the Second Chance Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 1084 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3403, 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 1085 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3461, Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN WOODRUFF

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Woodruff, an Olympic Gold Medalist who passed away last week at the age of 92. Woodruff, a native of Connellsville, Pennsylvania, was one of the most remarkable athletes in the world and will always be remembered for his astonishing come-from-behind victory in the 800 meter run at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

John Woodruff is also remembered as one of the great American rags-to-riches success stories. Born into a struggling family with 11 siblings, John overcame numerous obstacles on his way to becoming an American hero. He dropped out of high school to work in order to help support his family, but was denied a job. He returned to school, joined the track team and earned a scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh, becoming the first member of his family to attend college.

It was the summer of his freshman year that Woodruff qualified for the Olympic Games, outrunning the best American distance runners in the field to make it to Berlin. It was there, during the 800 meter final, that Woodruff pulled one of the riskiest moves in the history of the Olympic Games. Finding himself boxed in by several professional runners, Woodruff stopped in the middle of the race and let everyone pass him. He then ran around the other runners to take the lead, becoming the first American in 24 years to win the race.

Woodruff returned home a hero, and continued his college and track career, during which time he won numerous championships and set the American record in the 800 meter run, which lasted 12 years. He graduated from Pitt and served in World War II and Korea, after which he retired as a lieutenant colonel. He passed away on October 30th in Fountain Hills, Arizona.

John Woodruff was a true American hero who proved that with determination and hard work, any feat can be overcome. Our thoughts are with his family as they mourn their loss, and may they be comforted in knowing that John will be remembered as a leader who dedicated his life to serving his country as both an Olympian and a soldier. His legacy will live on in Connellsville, as his community honors and remembers their hero at a memorial service on Sunday.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE "PRIVACY AND CYBERCRIME ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2007"

#### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the bipartisan "Privacy and Cybercrime Enforcement Act of 2007," along with Representatives SMITH, SCOTT, FORBES, and SANCHEZ. This bill will provide new tools to federal prosecutors to combat identity theft and other computer crimes. I am pleased that Representatives SMITH, SCOTT and FORBES, who have been valuable partners in combating the growing problem of identity theft for many years, have joined me in introducing this important criminal bill.

The Privacy and Cybercrime Enforcement Act takes several important steps to protect Americans from the growing and evolving threat of identity theft and other cybercrimes. First, to better protect American consumers, our bill provides the victims of identity theft with the ability to seek restitution in federal court for the loss of time and money spent restoring their credit and remedying the harms of identity theft, so that identity theft victims can be made whole.

Second, because identity theft schemes are much more sophisticated in today's digital era, our bill also expands the scope of the federal identity theft statutes so that the law keeps up with the available technology. To address the increasing number of computer hacking crimes that involve computers located within the same state, our bill also eliminates the jurisdictional requirement that a computer's information must be stolen through an interstate or foreign communication in order to federally prosecute this crime.

Lastly, our bill strengthens consumer privacy by requiring companies to give rapid notice of breaches to law enforcement. The bill makes it a crime punishable by up to 5 years in prison to knowingly fail to report breaches to the appropriate authorities. The bill also requires agencies to prepare privacy impact assessments for proposed and final rules that pertain to the collection, maintenance, use, or disclosure of personally identifiable information from 10 or more individuals. With limited exceptions, such assessments must be made available to the public for comment.

The Privacy and Cybercrime Enforcement Act is a good, bipartisan measure to help combat the growing threat of identity theft and other cybercrimes. This balanced bill protects the privacy rights of consumers, the interests of business and the legitimate needs of law enforcement. Similarly, I hope that the other Committees of jurisdiction will take up and report out legislation that will protect consumers from ID theft through data security obligations and strong requirements that consumers be notified when the security of their personal information is compromised. Again, I thank the bipartisan coalition of Representatives who have joined me in introducing this important legislation.

THE SIKORSKY'S FALLEN HEROES  
COMMITTEE

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Sikorsky Fallen Heroes Committee who supports the families of Connecticut soldiers killed in the line of duty. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to see the work of this committee first hand. They have given so much to the families of our fallen service members who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

When families learn of their service member's death, they enter a very painful and sad period of their lives. The Sikorsky Fallen Heroes Committee has supported these families, acting as a pillar of strength for them when they needed support the most. Their dedication to these wives, mothers, fathers, daughters and sons has been truly remarkable and has been a testament to their patriotism and love of humanity.

In addition to supporting the family of fallen service members, the Sikorsky Fallen Heroes Committee has reached out to members of the community through events they hold. In June of this year, the Committee held their fourth annual softball tribute game to honor Jordan Pierson, Philip Alexander Johnson and Nicholas Madaras, three courageous young men who gave their lives in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Next June, they plan to honor six more fallen soldiers. Their commitment and dedication to the fallen is truly remarkable and is an inspiration to all of us.

The Sikorsky Fallen Heroes Committee are heroes in their own right. They are courageous people reaching out to those in need. We are honored and privileged to have people like them in the community. The unwavering dedication and support they show the families of fallen service members will always be remembered for making a difference in so many lives.

It is my hope we can all learn from the example of the Sikorsky Fallen Heroes Committee to support the families of the fallen who have also sacrificed in honor of our nation's freedom.

HONORING VIC CIBELLI

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Victor H. Cibelli, who passed away on Monday, November 12. I consider myself privileged to call him a friend, and I extend my condolences to his family on their loss.

Vic was a leader. A Navy veteran of the Korean war, he spent decades fighting for veterans as an officer in the VFW, the Jewish War Veterans, and the Combined Veterans Association of Illinois. I was fortunate to be able to rely on Vic for advice on a range of veterans' issues, and he always stood ready to help me organize an event to honor veterans or to promote their causes.

From teaching school children about citizenship and history, to organizing a service to honor the World War II warship *Dorchester's* four chaplains who gave their lives so others could survive, or running a Patriot's Pen student writing competition, no task was too big or small for Vic to help enrich his community.

People cherished the opportunity to work with Vic, and took pleasure in coming together for a good cause at his invitation. While Vic took the work of improving the lives of veterans and their families seriously, his generosity of spirit and infectious humor made the work enjoyable for him and everyone around him.

Madam Speaker, the Veterans community and the Fifth District of Illinois have lost a great advocate and a true friend. My deepest sympathies go to Vic's widow Mary, to his children and grandchildren. We will all miss him.

HONORING VICE ADMIRAL JOHN  
SCOTT REDD, U.S. NAVY (RET.)  
FOR FORTY YEARS OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a dedicated public servant who devoted nearly four decades to protecting this great Nation. Vice Admiral John Scott Redd, U.S. Navy (Ret.), retired last week after serving as the first Director of the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC).

Admiral Redd's accomplishments are many, having served thirty-six years in the United States Navy, which culminated in his assignment as the Director of Strategic Plans and Policy on the Joint Staff. Retiring from the Navy in 1998, Admiral Redd was again called to serve in 2004, this time as the Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad, Iraq. He went on to serve as the Executive Director of the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction where he influenced Community-wide intelligence reforms and made lasting improvements to America's national security.

Under his superior leadership, the National Counterterrorism Center developed into the Nation's premier intelligence and law enforcement fusion center, bridging all elements of the Intelligence Community to develop a national common intelligence picture. Admiral Redd tore down walls between Intelligence Community members and replaced a "need to know" philosophy with a "responsibility to share" environment.

Some of the Intelligence Community's successes are known such as the thwarted terrorist attacks against the Sears Tower, a Chicago-area shopping mall, military forces at Fort Dix, New Jersey, and multiple targets in New York, D.C. and elsewhere. Others remain classified. However, in each instance, the National Counterterrorism Center played a key information sharing role which led to the successful prevention of these attacks against our citizens.

Admiral Redd is to be commended for his contributions to the Nation, but such a perse-

vering service is not without a cost. For that I offer my personal thanks to his wife of over 37 years, Donna Redd, and their children Ann, Scott, and Adam, without whose support such service would not have been possible.

ANNIVERSARY OF MARSHALL  
UNIVERSITY PLANE CRASH

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, for each of us, there are a handful of moments in life that stay with us forever, moments that years later we can still recall with clarity and conviction. Moments that shook our core and move our hearts still. For the people of Huntington, West Virginia, a rainy evening in 1970 is one of those moments.

On November 14th, 1970 the Marshall University football team, coaches and supporters were returning home from their game against East Carolina University when their plane crashed into a hill just short of the Tri-State Airport. All 75 people on board were killed. In an instant the lives of everyone at Marshall and within the community of Huntington were changed.

Every November 14th, the Marshall University Student Government Association hosts a memorial ceremony to honor the victims of the crash by laying a wreath at the base of the Memorial Fountain in the center of Marshall's campus. This year marks the 37th anniversary of the plane crash. This annual ceremony draws together the families of those who died that night, as well as members of the community, the school and the football team, who attend the memorial service every year. At the end of each ceremony, the fountain is turned off until spring.

The fountain was dedicated in 1972 in front of the Memorial Student Center. The 75 points of the sculpture represent each of the 75 lives lost that rainy night. Sculptor Harry Bertoia hoped that the fountain would "commemorate the living—rather than death—on the waters of life, rising, receding, surging so as to express upward growth, immortality and eternity."

A year ago this December, the movie "We Are Marshall" premiered across the Nation, telling the story of how Marshall University and this community rose from the ashes of tragedy. It told how the Young Thundering Herd found a way to keep the football program together in the fall of 1971 and gave the community of Huntington hope in one of its darkest hours. The team that suited up that year in green and white may not have had a winning season, but by taking the field every Saturday, the players and coaches taught us that it isn't just about winning, that sometimes it's about simply showing up and playing the game.

The foundation laid by the Young Herd in 1971 paved the way for Marshall to become a football powerhouse during the 1990's and beyond. The legacy of the 1970 team lost in the crash and the team that took the field in 1971 is still with us today and is once again being honored with the ceremonial turning off of the Memorial Fountain.

The bronze plaque on the fountain bears this simple, eloquent inscription:

They shall live on in the hearts of their families and friends forever, and this memorial records their loss to the university and to the community.

We will never forget the loss of those 75 lives on that hillside in 1970. We will continue to honor their memory every time the Thundering Herd takes the field and the stadium fills with the cheers of family and friends. We Are Marshall.

#### THE HARMONY OF CIVILIZATIONS AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL

##### HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, intercultural understanding is a fundamental part of peace in the global system. The understanding of intercultural and international diversities minimizes the outbreak of serious conflicts on a fundamental level. Through teaching tolerance, and through building societies that promote unity, we can work towards creating a peaceful world.

On November 2, 2007, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, Ambassador Joseph Verner Reed addressed the Beijing Forum at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing regarding the promotion of building tolerant civilizations. I have submitted the text to be entered into the RECORD.

#### THE HARMONY OF CIVILIZATIONS AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL

I send warm greetings to all participants in the 2007 Beijing Forum who have come together to study and promote harmony between peoples and civilizations.

In the ten months that I have served as Secretary-General, I have traveled to all corners of the United Nations, from Kinshasa to Kabul, from Brussels to Beirut. Everywhere I have visited, and among all the different people I have met, I have encountered one common sentiment—a universal longing for peace and an aspiration to prosperity.

But, all too often, I have discovered that people who aspire to the same things also suffer from the same prejudices. They all fear that which is different from them: the other ethnicity, the other skin colour, the other cultural or linguistic tradition and, above all, the other religion.

And yet, in today's era of global travel and instant satellite transmissions, people everywhere are encountering less of the familiar, and more of "the other". This reality has fed rising intercultural and inter-religious tensions, as well as growing alienation among vast segments of the world population.

Today, there is an urgent need to address this worrying trend. We need to rebuild bridges and engage in a sustained and constructive intercultural dialogue, one that stresses shared values and shared aspirations.

It is time to promote the idea that diversity is a virtue, not a threat. It is time to explain that different religions, belief systems and cultural backgrounds are essential to the richness of the human experience. And it is time to stress that our common humanity is greater—far greater—than our outward differences.

The Beijing Forum is ideally placed to contribute to this process. By bringing together scholars from across the globe, your discussion can become a source of new ideas and innovative approaches to promote understanding and tolerance.

Your exchange can also contribute to the UN's own initiative for an Alliance of Civilizations, which responds to the clear need for action by the international community to bridge divides and promote understanding. The Alliance has identified several priority areas for action, and is developing a strategy to promote better understanding between the world of politics and religion. Meetings such as yours can help guide this important work, and ensure the Alliance's ultimate success.

Together, we must seek to further the basic ideals of all the world's major religions. We must build societies that respect individual beliefs and practices. And we must nurture communities where people of all faiths and nationalities coexist in peace.

In that spirit, let me express my hope that this Forum will help foster harmony and understanding, and thereby advance our wider efforts for a peaceful and prosperous world.

#### MOURNING THE LOSS OF CON- GRESSMAN AUGUSTUS F. HAW- KINS

##### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of former Representative Augustus F. Hawkins. Congressman Hawkins served in this chamber for 28 years, and I offer my condolences to his family and friends after his passing this past weekend at the age of 100.

Congressman Hawkins was dedicated to public service throughout his life. Beginning in 1935 as a California State Representative, he served the people of Los Angeles for 28 years. In 1962, Augustus Hawkins made a monumental breakthrough in civil rights history, becoming the first African-American elected to Congress from the State of California.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Hawkins continued to lead the way for the American Civil Rights Movement. In 1970, he and several of his colleagues joined together to found the Congressional Black Caucus. Then, in just his second term in Congress, he introduced and sponsored Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This ground-breaking legislation created the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and outlawed discrimination in the workplace based on race.

For over half a century, Congressman Hawkins dedicated his life to our Nation with steadfast dedication, humility, and geniality. In the hearts of the residents of Los Angeles, and anyone who was ever influenced by his presence, Augustus Hawkins' legacy of leadership and courage will remain for years to come. Congressman Hawkins is succeeded by his two stepdaughters, Barbara A. Hammond and Brenda L. Stevenson, and a stepson, Michael A. Taylor. I extend my deepest condolences and gratitude to the family of Congressman Hawkins.

#### IN SUPPORT OF A STRONG AND CAPABLE SUBMARINE FLEET

##### HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, yesterday President Bush signed into law H.R. 3222, the Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2008. The bill contained many important provisions to support our men and women in uniform, their families and our returning veterans. The measure includes a 3.5 percent pay raise for our troops, blocks the President's proposed fee increase for Tricare beneficiaries and provides significant funding for family advocacy programs to help military spouses and children manage the difficulties associated with deployments. We all recognize that our military's strength comes from the people who serve, and this legislation demonstrates our commitment to their health and well-being.

I am also extremely pleased that the Defense Appropriations Act includes an additional \$588 million in advance procurement funding for materials that will permit the expedited construction of a second Virginia-class submarine. As co-chair of the Congressional Submarine Caucus, I know the importance of submarines to our national security. Quiet yet powerful, submarines can conduct a variety of surveillance and reconnaissance missions, protect our fleet, project U.S. force onto distant shores and support global strike operations. The ability of submarines to operate independently in unconventional locations makes them one of the most capable components of our fleet. In fact, submarines are in such high demand that the Navy can fulfill only about 60 percent of Regional Combatant Commanders' requests to use them for missions.

The Navy has estimated that we need 48 attack submarines to meet the needs of our military commanders. However, under the Navy's current 30-year shipbuilding plan, they do not expect to increase production to two subs per year until 2012, causing a perilous decline in our future sub fleet—dropping below 48 ships in FY2020–33 and hitting a low of 40 in FY2028 and FY2029. Since I came to Congress nearly 7 years ago, I have consistently advocated an increase in our build rate of Virginia-class submarines to two per year so that we have sufficient capabilities to address emerging threats. Unfortunately, the Navy has repeatedly pushed back its two-per-year target date, causing instability in the industrial base. In FY2004, the Navy expected to build two subs per year in FY2007. By FY2005, the target had moved to FY2009. That date was delayed again and again, and now stands at FY2012. Meanwhile, our defense industrial base in Southeastern New England has suffered layoffs of submarine designers and engineers, whose specialized skills would be very difficult to reconstitute if lost. Without prompt action, we risk shrinking our sub fleet to dangerously low levels, precisely when nations such as China are expanding and modernizing their navies.

The FY2008 Defense Appropriations Act demonstrates Congress's commitment to addressing this dangerous problem and will enhance our national security. On behalf of the submarine industrial base in Rhode Island, I want to thank Chairman MURTHA and Ranking

Member YOUNG for their leadership on this important issue. I would also like to thank my friend and colleague from Connecticut, Mr. COURTNEY, for his tireless advocacy and efforts to achieve this goal, as well as the co-chair of the Submarine Caucus, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. FORBES, for being such a dedicated partner in this initiative.

I am hopeful that this additional funding will prompt the Navy to adjust its shipbuilding plan to begin construction of a second submarine in next year's budget. I remain committed to that goal, and I look forward to working with the Navy and my colleagues in Congress to build a more robust and capable submarine fleet.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 1082 on Suspension—H.R. 3315—Naming Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center.

I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

#### IN MEMORY OF NAVY CAPTAIN AND P.O.W. COLE BLACK

### HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life and memory of former Navy Captain Cole Black of Escondido, California. As a career Naval Officer, Cole's contributions to this country are impossible to quantify and the seven years he spent in captivity during the Vietnam War are an enduring testament to his character and service to America.

Last Friday, Cole was returning to Southern California after speaking to students in Oregon about his experiences as a P.O.W. when mechanical difficulties caused his plane to crash. This tragic and unexpected event came only weeks before his 75th birthday, which Cole would have celebrated on the 28th of November.

In June 1966, when he was only one week away from returning home to his family, Cole's F-8 Crusader was shot down over the skies of North Vietnam. He was captured almost instantly after ejecting from his aircraft and then forced to spend the next seven years of his life between four prison camps, including the infamous Hanoi Hilton.

Conditions in these prisons were intolerable, and the American service personnel who were held in these camps were treated inhumanely and without respect for the rules of war. Like so many others held in captivity by the North Vietnamese, Cole was confined to a 7 by 9 foot cage and fed meals of little to no sustenance—such as boiled greens and rice—only twice a day. He was also part of the Hanoi March, where prisoners were forced to march the streets of Hanoi as part of the Vietnamese propaganda effort, only to be met by people throwing rocks and other objects.

More impressive than Cole's endurance and willingness to survive his captivity was his unique perspective on the seven years he spent as a P.O.W. After his release in 1973, Cole later said that this time "changed his life for the better" and that he arrived home with a "real zest for life." Upon retiring from active military service in 1986, he attended National University and earned a master's in business and a real estate broker's license.

It was not until 1994 that Cole returned to Vietnam for a vacation with his wife Karen. While there, he visited the location of the Hanoi Hilton just as workers were tearing it down and he took the opportunity to pocket a piece of brick from the walls that once kept him confined for so many years.

Madam Speaker, President Reagan once said, "Freedom is a fragile thing and is never more than a generation away from extinction. It is not ours by inheritance; it must be fought for and defended constantly by each generation, for it comes once to a people. Those who have known freedom, and then lost it, have never known it again."

When President Reagan spoke these words, he was referring directly to Americans like Cole, who were willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for America. Not only did Cole fight to protect freedom as part of the American mission in Vietnam, but he fought tirelessly for his own freedom everyday he was in captivity. His strength and perseverance guaranteed his survival and, although he briefly lost his freedom, he was able to endure his captivity and return to a life far removed from cruelty and oppression.

Madam Speaker, my thoughts and prayers are with Cole's wife Karen and his children, two of which are currently serving in our nation's Armed Forces. His contributions and service to America will forever be remembered and I ask that my colleagues join me today in paying tribute to this great American hero.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER SOMERSET COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Somerset County Chapter of the American Red Cross! On Thursday, November 15, 2007, this vibrant organization will mark its Ninetieth Anniversary.

The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional Charter and the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross Movement, provides relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

Jean-Henry Dunant is credited as the original founder of the Red Cross. The International Committee of the Red Cross was formed on February 17, 1863. Operations were well underway overseas when the American Red Cross was first founded nearly twenty years later, on May 21, 1881 by Clara Barton.

The Red Cross has a long history of providing aid in emergencies. Food, shelter, and

medical assistance are offered to victims of fires, floods, and other catastrophes. In addition to disaster aid, the Red Cross sponsors blood drives; conducts CPR and first aid training; teaches swimming; provides AIDS education; and serves as a link between service men and women and their families during emergency situations.

By an act of Congress on January 5, 1905, the American Red Cross was granted a charter designating it as a nationwide agency through which the American people voluntarily extend assistance to people in need. The national headquarters, located in Washington, DC, implements policies and procedures that govern Red Cross activities, provides administrative and technical supervision, and offers guidance to its national organization, composed of local chapters and geographical regions.

The Greater Somerset County Chapter, American Red Cross evolved into its current configuration after undergoing numerous transformations and mergers. The Bound Brook Chapter was chartered in April 1917 and a few weeks later, the Somerville Area Chapter also came into being.

In March 1958, Manville was incorporated into the Somerville Area Chapter, and in June 1964, the Somerville and Bound Brook chapters merged to form the Raritan Valley Chapter. In 1994, this chapter reached its current configuration when the Raritan Valley Chapter merged with the Somerset Hills Chapter to become the Greater Somerset County Chapter.

The Greater Somerset County Chapter has historically relied on the utilization of a small staff, 428 volunteers that represent 98 percent of the chapter staffing and private authorized instructors to deliver high quality programs and services to the community. For 90 years, Somerset County has been provided continued access to 24/7 emergency and disaster services, Armed Forces Emergency Services (AFES), blood donation programs, preparedness education, health and safety training and medical transportation services.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to honor the Greater Somerset County Chapter of the American Red Cross. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of this valuable, dynamic organization for their ninety years of service! Again, I offer my praise and thanks to their dedicated trustees, administration, support staff, and volunteers who work tirelessly on behalf of those in need.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE IDEA FAIRNESS RESTORATION ACT

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the IDEA Fairness Restoration Act to help parents of students with disabilities ensure that their children have access to the free and appropriate education guaranteed by this Congress in 1975. I thank Mr. SESSIONS, who joins me in offering this bill, for his work on this important issue.

Madam Speaker, when Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, it recognized the vital importance of parent and school cooperation and collaboration in

special education. For the most part, this relationship has worked very well. But occasionally, the school system cannot or does not provide an appropriate education. In those rare cases, the Congress recognized that parents should have the ability to challenge the school's decision and advocate for a new Individual Education Plan.

As both school systems and parents build their cases, they bring expert witnesses to assess the student and testify about the quality of the education plan. In 1986, when Congress amended IDEA, it explained in the Conference Report that when parents win their case, a judge could award attorney's fees, including, and I quote, "reasonable expenses and fees of expert witnesses and the reasonable costs of any test or evaluation which is found to be necessary for the preparation of the parent or guardian's case." For years, prevailing parents were awarded expert witness fees, as Congress intended. But unfortunately, while Congress was very clear in its explanation of the bill, it did not include this provision in the legislative language. In 2006, the provision was challenged and the Supreme Court ruled that because Congress did not make its intention explicit in statute, courts could not longer award these fees.

As a result of this decision, parents can be faced with many thousands of dollars of expert witness fees in order to ensure their child gets an appropriate public education. A single expert witness can charge anywhere from \$100–\$300 per hour. Confronted with these costs, parents are discouraged or outright barred from bringing meritorious cases to secure the rights of their children. Low and middle income families are particularly hard hit.

Today, I introduce a bill to clarify Congress's intent and restore the expert witness fee provisions. It will allow parents to recover the high cost of expert witnesses if, and only if, they win their dispute with the school district. I want to be very clear—this bill does not impose any additional costs on school districts that comply with IDEA. The provisions apply only when a school system has been found, after an impartial hearing, to have wrongfully denied a child an appropriate education as defined in IDEA.

Madam Speaker, every student with a disability is entitled to a free and appropriate education under the law. This bill will level the playing field and help parents be effective advocates for their children's best interests.

THEY CANNOT DO BUSINESS LIKE  
THIS—PHARMACISTS NEED OUR  
HELP

### HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to call upon Democratic leadership to bring legislation to the floor that will help our independent pharmacies stay in business. The last few years have been difficult for pharmacists across the United States, and many are struggling to keep their doors open due to changes in the Medicare Part D prescription program. In my Kansas district alone, we have lost four pharmacists since this government program went into effect.

Once again, we are asking pharmacists to bear the burden of our cost-cutting measures.

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 made average manufacturers price, AMP, the new basis for the Medicaid Federal upper limit on multi-source, generic prescription drugs. Earlier this year, the Government Accountability Office released a report indicating that this new pricing system would reimburse pharmacists at 36 percent below what it costs them to buy the prescriptions. I ask you, how can we realistically expect anyone to do business like that?

We need to make changes quickly; otherwise, these pharmacies will no longer be around to serve customers. Here are some real life examples of Kansas pharmacists who are going to be negatively affected by this change if we do not act soon.

Many Medicaid patients in Kansas are in treatment for psychiatric conditions. Because of their mental state, they often forget to take their medications. Mike Conlin, a pharmacist in Topeka, has initiated a program in his pharmacy to help his psychiatric patients remember to take their medications by having his staff put the meds in a unit dosage device. This device allows his patients to see at a glance which medications are called for at any particular time of day. Mike stated it will be difficult to offer this individual treatment on a medication that pays him nearly 36 percent less in reimbursement than it actually costs his drugstore.

In other parts of the State, a great number of our community pharmacists double as the local nursing home pharmacist. Jim Hampton, of Atwood, Kansas, is one such pharmacist. The physicians and staff of the local Atwood home, depend on Jim to advise them daily on such issues as drug-to-drug interactions, new drugs and dosage regimens. While Jim finds great satisfaction in providing these medications and advice on their usage, he must reconsider his ability to serve these geriatric and developmentally disabled patients. And his decision is purely a business decision. Jim will be forced to decide whether his business can really afford to remain viable in selling a product for a price far less than he can acquire that product. Average manufacturer pricing is forcing Jim to do just that. And the ramifications of Jim's decision are far reaching.

In Phillipsburg, Kansas, there is a young disabled mother that recently gave birth to a child with a heart condition. She was without her Medicaid card yet urgently needed medication for the newborn infant. In fact, she was without a medical card of any type showing that insurance would pay for the medication. The local pharmacist, Rob Wenzl of Wenzl Drug, provided the infant her lifesaving drug. Rob did this despite the fact the new mom had no proof of coverage. Rob is just one more of many pharmacists in rural Kansas that are being forced to consider letting go of their Medicaid patients. The personalized service that Rob enjoys providing his patients, and that personalized care the patients receive, will potentially be eliminated should average manufacturer pricing as currently written be foisted upon our pharmacists.

Those of us in Congress take our responsibility seriously to stand up for those who are in trouble. I encourage my colleagues to listen to those pharmacists in their districts and encourage Democratic leadership to bring legislation to the floor to fix this problem.

Access to local pharmacies is important to a strong healthcare system and is, therefore, important to each and every one of us.

CONGRATULATING ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL  
VOLLEYBALL TEAM ON WINNING  
THE 2007 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the St. Paul's Episcopal School volleyball team on winning the 2007 5A state championship.

In 1947, William S. Mann founded St. Paul's Episcopal School in Mobile, Alabama. St. Paul's began with a class of 20 kindergartners, and has grown to an enrollment of 1,613 students, making St. Paul's the largest Episcopal school in North America.

Coach Kelli Hillier led the top-ranked and defending 5A champion varsity volleyball team to their second consecutive state championship earlier this month bringing the total number of volleyball state championships to 10. Incredibly, this most recent honor brings the number of St. Paul's state championships won this year to 9. Like Coach Hillier, I am so proud of her players, and I know they worked hard for this great honor.

The St. Paul's statement of philosophy regarding its athletes states, "On the field and off, win or lose, they should be the example of honor, integrity, and respect," and these young women are certainly no exception.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Paul's volleyball team on a great season and state championship. This school deserves public recognition for this great honor, and I extend my congratulations to each member of the team and coaching staff:

#### ST. PAUL'S 2007 VOLLEYBALL TEAM ROSTER

Names: Katherine White; Grace Copeland; Annie Gonzales; Lenore Lahti; Jennifer Percy; Nancy Taylor; Neal Tisher; Courtenay Martindale; Catherine Rebarchak; Sarah Kitzmann; Johnnie Borries; Robin Jackson.

Coaching Staff: Head Coach Kelli Hillier and Assistant Coaches Jill Campbell and Sharon Mosley.

### HONORING HUNTER E. STOLL

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Hunter E. Stoll, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 255, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Hunter has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Hunter has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Hunter E. Stoll for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

# CONGRATULATING THE BAYSIDE ACADEMY VOLLEYBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2007 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

## HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor the Bayside Academy volleyball team on winning the 2007 2A State Volleyball Championship.

Coach Ann Schilling along with Assistant Coach Brenda Allen led the Bayside Academy varsity volleyball team to the state championship earlier this month, making it the first team in Alabama history to win six consecutive titles. Incredibly, Bayside Academy has won nine of the last 10 state championships in 2A and 16 titles overall.

Founded in 1970 by Baldwin County families, Bayside has an enrollment of 730 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 12 and ranks as one of the state's premier independent schools.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Bayside Academy Volleyball Team on a great season and state championship. This school deserves public recognition for this great honor, and I extend my congratulations to each member of the team and coaching staff.

### BAYSIDE ACADEMY'S 2007 VOLLEYBALL TEAM ROSTER

Names: Maggie Niemeyer; Shelby Bulta; Lizzie Williams; Reynolds Pittman; Emily Allen; Taylor Givens; Gigi Eyre; Caroline Todd; Sarah Mosteller; Lauren Reibe; Patricia Sirmon; Savannah Simmons.

Coaching Staff: Head Coach Ann Schilling; Assistant Coach Brenda Allen.

# RECOGNITION OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE HERITAGE MONTH

## HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to acknowledge National American Indian Heritage Month and to call attention to the dire situation that many of our Native American brothers and sisters continue to live in today. In the world's richest nation on earth, many Native American people struggle to obtain the most basic of services made available to the rest of the nation, effectively threatening the health and well-being of future generations. For this reason, I continually support legislation that strengthens the self-determination of Native American people living both on and off Indian reservations.

According to the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Health Board, the Native American infant mortality rate is 150 percent greater than that of Caucasian infants, suicide among Native Americans is 2½ times higher than the national average, Native Americans are 2.6 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes, and the life expectancy rate for Native Americans is 5 years less than the rest of the U.S. population. There is an urgent need for sufficient and effective healthcare for Native American people and yet the President has

proposed zeroing out Urban Indian Health Programs and reducing funding to Indian Health Facilities by \$25 million. In addition, inadequate legal services and weakening education support continue to hinder Native American people from achieving self-sufficiency and upward mobility.

As a new Appropriations Committee member, I am committed to strengthening the funding sources for Native American programs, specifically those programs in the areas of healthcare, education, and the justice system. I have fought for the full funding for the Community Health Partnership of Santa Clara County's Healthy Women, Healthy Choices project, which aims to increase health status of medically underserved mid-life women by providing comprehensive health education and promoting adoption of healthier behaviors through community workshops and provider trainings. I have also fought to continue the funding for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Urban Indian Health Program, which works to eradicate the mental health, substance abuse, and chronic disease disparities plaguing urban Indian people. These valuable programs provide the holistic and culturally sensitive care needed to effectively support this very vulnerable population.

In addition, I have cosponsored numerous health care bills developed specifically to address the needs of Native American people including the Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2007. Introduced by Representative FRANK PALLONE, H.R. 1328 seeks to create comprehensive behavioral health, prevention, treatment, and aftercare services for Native American peoples. By passing policies such as these, Congress can help turn around the Native American health care crisis and improve the well-being of future generations.

Since joining the Appropriations committee, I have also argued for the continued funding of the O'Malley Education program. As a former educator, I know and understand the positive influence that a properly funded school system can have on the performance of its students. Authorized in 1934, the Johnson O'Malley Act was passed to ensure that the federal government supports the unique and specialized educational needs of Native American children. Providing funding for basic education-related items such as eyeglasses, school supplies, learning materials, and scholastic testing fees, the O'Malley Education program helps Native American children achieve academic success. The program provides critical supplemental funding not covered by any other Federal, State, or local agency. It is an essential component that is supporting the efforts of the educational school system and improving the educational attainment of Native American children.

Preservation of indigenous languages is another significant challenge impacting Native America and one that Congress can help support. According to the National Indian Education Association (NIEA), Native American languages are being lost at a rate so rapid that by the year 2050 only twenty indigenous languages will remain viable. Allowing the loss of these indigenous languages would not only be devastating to Native American people, but would be a true disservice to the world. For this reason, I have supported legislation such as H. Con. Res. 11, the English Plus Resolution, introduced by Representative JOE SERRANO, which calls on the Federal Government to support and assist Native American

groups working to preserve and prevent the extinction of their languages and cultures.

Legal services for Native American people also require continued Congressional attention. To ensure the sustainability of Indian legal services, we must continue to provide the tribal justice system with adequate federal financial support. For this reason, I have proposed appropriations funding for the California Indian Legal Services' Tribal Court Development Project (TCD). Funding the TCD project would strengthen existing tribal courts in California and foster the development of new tribal courts. TCD would improve capacity and resource-building, increase State-wide institution-building and information-sharing, and enhance legal services offered by the California tribal justice system. I have also urged the Appropriations Committee to fund the National Congress of American Indians and the California Indian Legal Services' Alcohol and Substance Abuse Demonstration Projects, the Tribal Courts Assistance Program, and the Tribal Prison Construction Program. Together, these initiatives work to strengthen State and local law enforcement efforts and provide much needed funding directed at improving resources, services, and infrastructure available in the tribal justice system.

In addition to bringing these issues to light, I have also cosponsored H.J. Res. 3, introduced by Representative Jo Ann Davis, which calls on the Federal Government to recognize and apologize for the ill-conceived policies it has implemented against Native American peoples throughout our Nation's history, and H.R. 3585, introduced by Representative JOE BACA, which formally honors the achievements and contributions of Native American people, calls for the development of a model educational curriculum, which recognizes such achievements, and encourages the American people to celebrate National American Indian Heritage Day.

As we embark on the 2007 National American Indian Heritage Month, I am hopeful that my colleagues and I will have the opportunity to pass the proposed legislation and confirm Congress' commitment to support Native American peoples and uphold Native American cultures and languages.

## HONORING JULIAN GIBSON-CORNELL

## HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Julian Gibson-Cornell, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 75, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Julian has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Julian has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Julian Gibson-Cornell for

his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR AS OFFERED BY LINDA DICKENS OF GRAND BAY, AL

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, last week one of my constituents, Linda Dickens, submitted a letter to Mobile's Press-Register offering a heartfelt tribute to her father, P.H. Murray.

As we pause this week to salute the men and women who have served in America's Armed Forces and honor the courage and sacrifice of those who continue to serve today, I found her letter especially poignant.

Today, Madam Speaker, I rise to ask that this op-ed piece be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety, for I found Ms. Dickens' letter an appropriate way to say thank you to the men and women who have done so much to protect this nation:

SALUTE TO A SPECIAL VETERAN

Veterans Day will not be the same this year because my special World War II veteran will not be here with me to celebrate. He was my father, P.H. Murray, who passed away Sept. 30, one day after his 84th birthday.

He was a great American hero to our family. His American flag is still flying outside his home, as it did every day he lived. He went off to war as a boy at the age of 18 and came back a man. He brought back memories, good and bad, that would last a lifetime.

He was proud to have served under Gen. George Patton in the Battle of the Bulge.

He was quite a joker when he was young, and when he was awakened in the middle of the night to see his commanding officer, the first time he thought, "What have I done?" It was a good thing, because the officer had learned Daddy had been a burner at the shipyard before the war, and they needed men to help burn plows to put on the front of the tanks so they could go over the hedge rows, which made the tanks turn over and easy targets for Germans to shoot. This made him very proud that he had done something special for his country.

For years as a child I never understood how Daddy could squat on the floor for hours at a time without moving. It was because for 19 months he didn't see a chair or a bed.

He never talked to us much when we were little. If only I had known the nightmares my mom hid from us that he was having about the war. He had so many memories bottled up in him.

He was a great father and provider and was always there for us five kids. He taught us to work hard, prepare for the future and always value what the men of WWII had done for our great country. He was proud that he had helped with our freedom and that we were all able to go to college.

He was a very smart man, even though he didn't go to college because of his children. He was a quiet man until the last few years, when he opened up about the war. He began to tell us stories about the war.

Some were funny, and others you could tell took a toll on his heart. This is when I really came to realize what the war had done for us.

I had taken history courses about the war, but they were nothing like the personal stories Daddy told. He said we never learned the real history of the war in a history book. Many young people don't realize what veterans did to keep our country free.

Daddy lost his two childhood friends in the war. One was killed and the other so shell-shocked that he could never come home to live. I remember the trips to see "Mr. Jim" at the Veterans Home in Biloxi. Daddy never forgot about him, even though he felt sad that he was not able to come home to his family.

Daddy taught us love, how important family is and that it doesn't matter what you have, it is what you do with it. Never forget we are free, and never forget the men who fought and the ones who gave their lives so we could be free.

He was proud of his WWII hat, which he wore proudly each day. He was buried with it. It made him feel proud and honored when someone asked him where he served.

I give all the veterans of this great country a "five-star salute," as my father would say when you did something good. Daddy, I give you a "five-star salute" for all you did for me and our country. I will miss you this Veterans Day and all the other days of my life. Thanks for a job well done.

Linda Dickens, Grand Bay.

HONORING DR. J. EUGENE GRIGSBY

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. PASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. J. Eugene Grigsby, a talented and multi-faceted artist who has been instrumental in highlighting the importance of combining art with culture and history as a means of expression. As such, he is considered by many as "one of America's leading artistic minds and recognized internationally as an artistic voice for the African American community." It was in keeping with this distinction that he was recently honored by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation at its Celebration of Leadership for the Visual and Performing Arts.

From his early days as a young art teacher in 1946 at Phoenix's segregated Carver High School, Dr. Grigsby has concentrated on conveying to his students the importance of incorporating their personal being and heritage in their works—a message he continued to demonstrate as he rose to become Professor Emeritus of Art at Arizona State University. As an internationally respected artist himself, who has mastered a number of mediums including oils, acrylics and lithographs, his works are noted for their ability to capture the spirit and dignity of his African and African-American subjects in scenes depicting their daily life.

A pioneer in today's promotion of multi-cultural art, Dr. Grigsby led the way to contemporary art instruction that goes beyond work in the studio by including the study of history and how man has chosen to express himself in differing environments. It is within this context that his celebrated book, *Art and Ethnicity: Background for Teaching Youth in a Pluralistic Society*, has provided educators with valuable insights into art education and will continue to impact the study of art well into the future.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend, honor and thank Dr. Grigsby, one of the great

American artists, for his continued service and contributions to the world of art and academic communities.

SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my full support for the Second Chance Act of 2007, a bill to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of ex-offenders into the community.

With the dramatic increase in criminal convictions involving illegal drugs since the 1980's, the Nation's prisons have become severely overcrowded. As a result, every day hundreds of men and women are released from prison into their communities for the difficult task of restarting their lives.

It is even more difficult for those who have been incarcerated for a lengthy amount of time, those with limited education, and those who lack basic job skills. These men and women need assistance transitioning back into the community. Some assistance is needed with locating housing, finding employment, getting drug treatment, and mentoring.

This bill would provide that assistance. It is crucial to provide that assistance because it will reduce recidivism, improve lives, and improve communities. At a time when communities all across our great country have been torn apart by crime and drugs, we need to do all we can to help Americans who need a second chance at life. Let's send a message to America that we care about those who need help getting on their feet.

I thank my colleague DANNY DAVIS for introducing this important bill. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF JOHN EDWARD GRENIER

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the State of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Mr. John Edward Grenier was a devoted family man and one of the most respected political strategists in modern Alabama politics.

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1930, John Grenier attended Jesuit High School and lettered in track, baseball, and football. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from Tulane University. He entered the United States Marine Corps and rose to the rank of captain. He served with distinction in Korea as a pilot, flying over 100 patrols in squadron VMF 312, known as the Checkerboard Squadron.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the Marine Corps, John Grenier attended New York University and received an LL.M. degree in taxation. He worked on Wall Street for a brief time before moving to Birmingham, Alabama, to work with Southern Natural Gas

Company. He later joined the law firm of Bradley Arant Rose & White, where he became a partner. He then joined the firm formerly known as Lange, Simpson, Robinson & Somerville and was a partner for over 35 years before retiring in 2004.

John Grenier's true passion was politics, a passion that changed the course of Alabama politics. He began his political career as chairman of the Jefferson County Young Republicans. In this capacity, he organized a political rally in Birmingham in 1960 for Richard Nixon.

John Grenier organized the modern day Alabama Republican Party and served as the state chairman in 1962. He joined the Goldwater for President Campaign and organized the delegates to the Republican National Convention in San Francisco. John Grenier was the Southern Regional Director for the campaign when Senator Goldwater swept many of the southern states, including Alabama, in his bid for President.

In 1966, Mr. Grenier was the Republican nominee against Democratic U.S. Senator John Sparkman. Even though he lost that race, John fared better than most previous Republicans in what was then a heavily Democratic state.

In 1986, John served as the campaign manager for Guy Hunt's successful bid to become the first Republican governor of Alabama since Reconstruction. He served as Governor Hunt's chief of staff and later managed Governor Hunt's successful bid for reelection.

Madam Speaker, John Grenier was a political leader, strategist and visionary. He loved life and lived it to the fullest, and his passing marks a tremendous loss for all of Alabama. He will be deeply missed by many, most especially his wife, Stella Kontos Grenier; his son, John Beaulieu Grenier; his daughter-in-law, Joy Grenier; his sister, Rosemary Grenier Rivet; his four grandchildren, John Beaulieu Grenier, Jr., Dorothy Monnish Grenier, Evans Barlow Grenier, and Carolyn Youmans Grenier; as well as countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

#### HONORING LINK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Link Elementary School of Elk Grove Village, Illinois, for being named a No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School for the 2006–2007 school year. Principal Barbara Schremser, Link faculty, students and parents—you should be very proud of this remarkable accomplishment.

At a time in our Nation's history when the efficacy of our education system is often questioned, it is a great comfort to see a school that truly commits itself to finding ways to teach our children and provide hope for our Nation's future.

The No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools Award is a distinction given to the public schools throughout the country whose students score within the top 10 percent on state assessments. This year, of the more

than 97,000 public schools in the United States, just 287 schools were recognized with this distinct honor.

In the State of Illinois, 19 schools were members of this elite group. The Blue Ribbon School Award recognizes what we all know: the Link faculty and staff are some of the best and brightest in the Nation.

With the motto "to think, to learn, to achieve and to care," Link has shown steady academic progress and achieved exceptionally high test scores. In awarding the 2006–2007 Blue Ribbon School Award, the U.S. Department of Education recognized Link's success in helping students consistently achieve at very high levels, as well as its continued commitment to narrowing the achievement gap.

As we strive to educate our current generation of children and prepare our nation's future leaders, Link Elementary School stands out as a shining example of scholastic and institutional excellence.

I am proud to represent Link Elementary School in the United States Congress and I look forward to their continued achievements.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues please join me in congratulating the talented students and dedicated faculty and staff of Link Elementary School for receiving the Blue Ribbon School Award.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, on November 7, 2007, I missed four votes. Had I been present that evening, I would have voted as follows:

"No" on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA)—vote No. 1056.

"Yea" on final passage of H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA)—vote No. 1057.

"Yea" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Con. Res. 236, Recognizing the close relationship between the United States and the Republic of San Marino—vote No. 1058.

"Yea" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 801: Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3688) to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement—vote No. 1059.

#### RECOGNIZES THE GERMAN AMERICAN CLUB OF SPRING HILL, FLORIDA ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. GINNEY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Fifth District of Florida that I represent is made up of people from around the United States and the world. With perfect weather, low taxes and friendly residents, it is one of the fastest growing areas of the country. As you might expect, one of the

cultural groups that have flocked to Florida for the last several generations are German Americans, many from my former State of New York. On Sunday, November 18, 2007, the German American Club of Spring Hill, Florida will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a dinner and dance extravaganza.

The club, founded in 1982, was organized by Friedel Rohn, along with Christa and Fritz Neumann. The first social meeting was held at the home of Friedel Rohn in January 1982 with 10 people present. The first "official" meeting was held in June 1982 with 22 members present. Today there are nearly 300 members and the club is still growing strong.

The first officers installed were Friedel Rohn as president, Margarethe Grabert as vice-president, Norman Armonat as treasurer and Ruth Hughes as secretary. By March of 1983, the membership had increased to 60 members. The club began hosting many functions and socials throughout the year, including its own Oktoberfest. As the years passed, more dances and social events were added to the calendar and the membership continued to increase.

In 1992, when the club celebrated its 10th anniversary, the club had grown to over 170 members. In 2002, the club's 20th anniversary was celebrated with a membership that had increased to over 235. Today the 25th anniversary will feature 285 members, with room to grow for the future. Having attended several of their club functions, I can tell you that German American Club members stayed true to their roots and know how to cook a delicious schnitzel and dance to a great polka tune.

Madam Speaker, over the past 25 years the German American Club of Spring Hill has worked to uphold the German culture, spirit, tradition and heritage. The club's members and officers have made Spring Hill and Hernando County a true home to German Americans from around the world, and are to be commended for their commitment and dedication. With the continued support of their membership and officers, I look forward to help the club celebrate their next 25 years.

#### INTRODUCING THE AIRPORT SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

#### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, last week, we learned that more than 30 illegal aliens gained access to the most sensitive areas at O'Hare Airport.

Without valid Social Security numbers, illegal aliens were given official badges to access the tarmac and the airplanes.

This is not the first time. It's happened before at airports around the country.

The Congress must set Federal standards for those who seek access to an airport's most sensitive areas.

You should be a U.S. national or legal permanent resident.

You should possess a valid Social Security number that actually belongs to you.

You should have that Social Security number verified through the E-Verify employer verification system.

And you should get your access badge from the Transportation Security Administration—not some rusty old van in the parking lot.

Today, I am introducing the Airport Security Enhancement Act of 2007 to make these standards the law of the land.

I urge my colleagues to join me in this critical national security effort.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, on November 8, 2007, I was absent from the House. Had I been present that day, I would have voted as follows:

“Yea” on final passage of H.R. 3688, the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement—vote No. 1060.

“Yea” on agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 806, Providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3222, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes—vote No. 1063.

“Yea” on agreeing to the Conference Report for H.R. 3222, Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes—vote No. 1064.

“Yea” on Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 802, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3355) to ensure the availability and affordability of homeowners’ insurance coverage for catastrophic events—vote No. 1066.

“Yea” on the Motion to Instruct Conferees regarding H.R. 3074, the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations for FY 2008—vote No. 1067.

“Yea” on Representative KLEIN of Florida Amendment No. 17 to H.R. 3355, the Homeowners’ Defense Act of 2007—vote No. 1068.

“No” on the following Amendments: Representative ROSKAM’s Amendments 6 and 13, Representative MANULLO’s Amendment and Mr. SHAYS’ Amendment to H.R. 3355, the Homeowners’ Defense Act of 2007—votes No. 1069, 1070, 1071, and 1072.

“No” on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions H.R. 3355, the Homeowners’ Defense Act of 2007—vote No. 1073.

“Yea” on final passage of H.R. 3355, the Homeowners’ Defense Act of 2007—vote No. 1074.

“Yea” on Agreeing to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3043, Making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes—vote No. 1075.

#### SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2007*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, far too often this country does too little to keep people out of the revolving door of our prison system. Rather than taking steps that will provide long-term, rehabilitative solutions that will lower recidivism rates, Congress has adopted short-term fixes like stricter sentencing standards that keep prisoners in prison longer and bring them back more frequently. Study after study has shown that this approach does not work, and yet we continue to build new prisons and fill them beyond capacity.

That is why I support H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act of 2007, which provides a new direction for our criminal justice system, one that focuses on helping prisoners turn their lives around and become contributing members of society. Specifically, H.R. 1593 allocates \$110 million to support a variety of prisoner re-entry programs which include mentorship, housing, drug treatment, education and job training. All of these programs are designed to assist former inmates as they transition back into society and provide the support they need to keep them from returning to prison.

I support this bill because it will begin to reverse the misguided policy of instituting harsher laws that create longer mandatory sentences for crimes. This country sends more and more people to prison every year. A 2006 Justice Department report found that a record 7 million people, 1 in every 32 U.S. adults, were behind bars, on probation, or on parole last year. These statistics are especially troubling because not only does time spent in jail affect the prisoner; it also creates a vicious cycle that has a detrimental impact on their families. Research shows that children of incarcerated parents are three to six times more likely to exhibit violent or serious delinquent behavior than other children.

While, I believe strongly in securing appropriate prison sentences for people who break our laws, I also feel that it is important that we do everything we can to ensure that, when people get out of prison, they enter our communities as productive members of society. H.R. 1593 makes an important step toward changing our country’s outlook on crime and punishment. I would like to thank my friend and colleague DANNY DAVIS for his tenacity and hard work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent Tuesday

afternoon, November 13, on very urgent business. Had I been present for the four votes which occurred Tuesday evening:

I would have voted “aye” on H.R. 3315, roll-call vote No. 1082.

I would have voted “aye” on H.R. 1593, roll-call vote No. 1083.

I would have voted “aye” on H.R. 3403, roll-call vote No. 1084.

I would have voted “aye” on H.R. 3461, roll-call vote No. 1085.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, on November 9, 2007, I was absent from the House. Had I been present that day, I would have voted as follows:

“Yea” on agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 809, providing for the consideration of H.R. 3996, Temporary Tax Relief Act—vote No. 1078.

“Yea” on final passage of H.R. 3996, the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007—vote No. 1081.

#### SUPPORTING WORLD DIABETES DAY

### HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 14, 2007*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today is World Diabetes day.

Diabetes is a serious, chronic disease afflicting over 20 million Americans. As the vice-chair of the Diabetes Caucus, I have had the opportunity to meet many people who must deal with the hardships and stress of living with diabetes 24/7. They have taught me what it means to “go-low” while participating in sports, to wake twice during the night to check blood sugar levels, and suffer from seizures. This is no way for anyone, especially children, to live.

Over the years, advances in medicine and technology have allowed patients to better manage their disease, but more work must be done in order to find a cure.

It is essential that Congress continue to support groundbreaking research at the NIH. We must also fight for federally funded stem-cell research, the greatest potential for finding a cure.

In honor of World Diabetes Day, I urge my colleagues to join me in the effort to help the millions who suffer from diabetes.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and

any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 15, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 12

10 a.m.

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine a recently released Government Accountability Office report, focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution.

SR-301